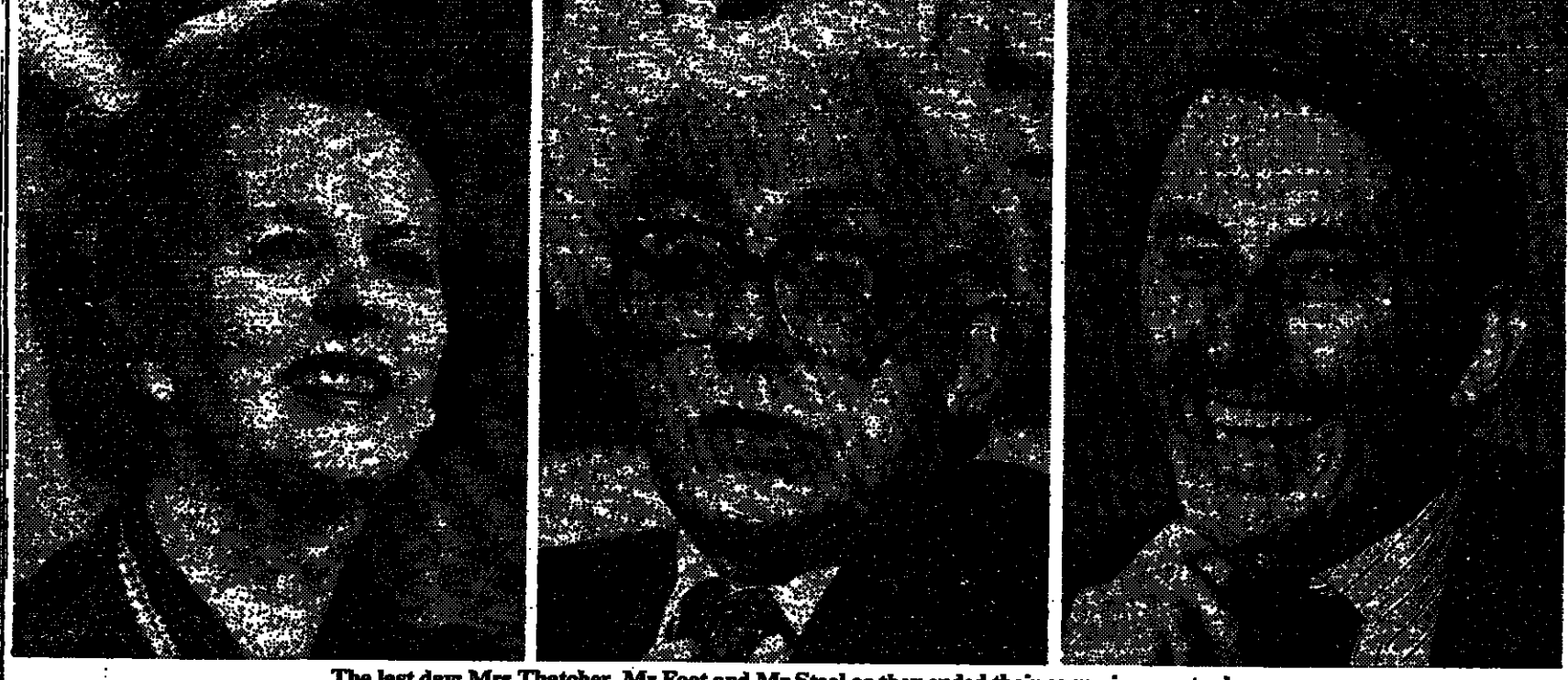


صكرا من اللامل

Thatcher hope • Foot appeal • Steel warning



The last day: Mrs Thatcher, Mr Foot and Mr Steel as they ended their campaigns yesterday.

Labour defiant as Tories head for landslide victory

● The Conservatives are still heading for a landslide victory but Mrs Thatcher's target of half the popular vote seems unlikely to be achieved
● The Cabinet "think-tank", set up by Mr Edward Heath 13 years ago, faces extinction if Mrs Thatcher is returned
● Mr Francis Pym Foreign Secretary, accused the Labour Party of deliberately ignoring the EEC issue because it was a vote-loser (page 5)

● The biggest and noisiest demonstration of Mrs Thatcher's campaign tour provoked her into revealing her contempt for the Labour Party
● The rift in Liberal/SDP defence policy was confirmed when Dr David Owen said an Alliance government would use Polaris
● The Prime Minister endorsed a bitter attack made on proportional representation by Mr Michael Foot at the Labour press conference (page 4)

Protest provokes Tory contempt

By Philip Webster
Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday faced the biggest and noisiest demonstration of her election campaign tour and was provoked into revealing her utter contempt for the Labour Party.
As about 300 protesters carrying Labour banners tried to shout her down during an open-air speech in Wiltshire, Mrs Thatcher turned on them angrily and exclaimed: "How pathetic the party you support. How pathetic you are." It was by far her most bitter outburst of the campaign.

'Think tank' may be killed

By Peter Hennessy
There is a strong possibility that Mrs Margaret Thatcher, if she wins today, will disband the Central Policy Review Staff, the Cabinet's "think tank", as part of post-election changes in the geography and geography of Whitehall.
She believes the unit, invented by Mr Edward Heath 13 years ago, has lost its way and outlived its usefulness.

Britain's one-month election campaign ended last night with the Conservative Party apparently as certain as when it began to secure an overwhelming majority over the Labour Party in the new Parliament.
The Conservative leader, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, seeking a second parliamentary term as Prime Minister, confided to *The Times* that she would "clearly" have a majority of votes to confirm the Government's authority. No party has achieved that since 1935.

The campaign in the constituencies, especially the marginals, showed the Labour vote increasing, he said. It was a different election there to the one being fought in the newspapers and by the opinion polls.
In private no Labour Party figures of stature believed in victory last night. But they did maintain that the apparent surge of the Alliance parties, as

In a special election morning appeal today Mr Foot urges every voter "to support Labour in a great new drive to restore the vigour and compassion of our nation."

Other accretions in No 10 would include the Rayner unit, the eight-member efficiency team founded by Lord Rayner, chairman of Marks and Spencer now housed in the Management and Personnel Office (MPO).

But Mrs Thatcher seemed certain to be disappointed in that hope, if in no other, when the polls close at 10 o'clock tonight and the first projection of the national outcome is broadcast. The strong showing of the Liberals and the Social Democratic Party, in electoral alliance, for whose candidates a quarter of Britain's 42.5 million voters seemed up to last night prepared to vote, puts out of reach the target of 50 per cent of the popular vote.

recorded by the opinion polls in the last two weeks, had been arrested. Mr David Hughes, Labour's national agent, said they had evidence of differences between Liberal and SDP supporters in the marginals, with Liberal voters deserting Social Democrat for Labour candidates to keep Conservatives out.

Mrs Thatcher used the last speech of the tour to reiterate her main campaign themes - extolling her party's policy on defence, social finance, employment, the health service and pensions.

Despite substantial preparatory work on options for change by her advisers Mrs Thatcher has yet, in the words of an insider, "to think these things through, you cannot be sure that anything will happen at all".

But that same Alliance strength, by eating into the Labour Party's natural base, offers Mrs Thatcher's Conservatives a bigger majority of parliamentary seats than any party has enjoyed since the Second World War.

At Ebbw Vale in his Blaenau Gwent constituency, Mr Foot made his last campaign speech, warning voters that under a new Tory government the National Health Service would become "a fond but distant memory" and that billions would be spent keeping a fifth of the workforce on the dole.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader in a series of meetings in the Borders towns, gave warning against "the arrogance of power" of a Conservative government with a swollen majority.

Dr Owen replied: "Yes, Polaris is under, at the moment, Nato commanders but there is the capacity for it to come under Britain in a situation in which Britain faced, as it saw it, a threat to its national interest. That had been the situation with Polaris and it would not change."

No such outcome was commended yesterday by the Labour Party and its leader, Mr Michael Foot, who at his last campaign press conference at Westminster said Labour was out to win and bravely forecast a "very fine result".

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Lord Incheape, the P & O chairman is to answer questions from Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, about the group's performance at today's annual meeting. Page 21

Letters: On the election, from Lord Harlech and others; nuclear arms, from the Bishop of Winchester. Leading articles: Polling day: Features, pages 14 and 16. Bernard Levin on the patience of the fascist left; Union threats to press freedom; Ronald Butt on the turning-point election. Spectrum: Up the poll without a vote. Books, page 15.

Earlier, at their daily press conference, Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel denied a report in yesterday's *Times* that there was any "significant difference" between the Liberals and the Social Democrats on the future role of the deterrent.

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Spanish firm to claim salvage on Harrier jet

From Harry Debelius, Madrid
The Spanish company Naviera Garcia-Mila is to make a salvage claim on the £7m Royal Navy Harrier jump jet which made a forced landing on one of its ships off Portugal.
Under normal salvage procedure a settlement is negotiated before the recovered craft is returned to its owners. In this case it is not clear whether Garcia-Mila will keep the Harrier before settling with the British Defence Ministry.
A lawyer representing the company was scheduled to fly to the Canary Islands last night to be on hand for the arrival today of the Alraigo, the 2,300-tonne cargo ship on which the Harrier pilot landed after failing to locate his carrier, HMS Illustrious.
A spokesman for the ship owners also claimed that a bomb had fallen off the jet and bounced across the deck as the aircraft set down on a cluster of containers just forward of the bridge on Monday evening 120 miles south-west of Oporto. The bomb did not explode, but it frightened members of the ship's crew, he said.
A Foreign Ministry spokesman, when questioned about the Spanish Government's attitude regarding a possible salvage claim, expressed surprise and said he would have to consult with his superiors.
Both the Foreign Ministry and the shipping company admitted that the case was unprecedented, and said the outcome would be interesting regardless of the amount of compensation, if any, which is eventually paid.
Sub-lieutenant Ian Watson, aged 25, said in telephone conversations from the Alraigo that when he picked up the freighter on his radar he had fuel for only six more minutes, and referring to the ill-fated Harrier: "I could not find Mother."
With just one minute of fuel left, he decided to make a forced landing on the deck of the Spanish vessel.
Captain Ador Suso Solinaza said in a telephone interview broadcast by a Spanish radio network: "We were surprised and frightened when we saw a warplane fully loaded with bombs make several passes over our ship and then flying alongside at the same speed. A few seconds later, the plane set down on the ship."
● Ministry inquiry: The Ministry of Defence in London was still seeking information last night about the bomb which was reported to have been dislodged from the Sea Harrier, Rodney Cowton writes.
In naval flying circles, however, there was considerable doubt that it would prove to have been a bomb at all. If, as Sub-Lieutenant Watson has said, he was on a reconnaissance mission, it is unlikely that he would have been carrying bombs.
Military aircraft carry under their wings or fuselage disposable fuel tanks and on a reconnaissance mission the Sea Harrier would have been carrying a pod containing photographic equipment. To the untrained eye either of these might be mistaken for a bomb.
It is thought that if he were carrying bombs the pilot would almost certainly have jettisoned them before attempting such a precarious landing.
Pilot's ordeal, Ministry bill, page 10

BTR wins control of Tilling in £660m bid

By Our Financial Staff
Britain's largest company takeover bid ended last night as BTR, an engineering and energy group, won control of Thomas Tilling in a £660m deal.
The victory put the market value of the combined group among Britain's top 10 companies.
Tilling, a conglomerate with a patchy profit record, owns businesses which include Pretty Polly tights and Heineemann publishers. It has fought the bid since it was launched two months ago.
Mr Francis Black, Tilling's finance director, said last night: "I don't believe shareholders have done the right thing by accepting the bid. But we did make BTR pay £200m more than it intended."
BTR now controls 58 per cent of the Tilling shares and will be meeting the Tilling board today.
The takeover was one of the most acrimonious fights the City has seen. Hundreds of thousands of pounds were spent on newspaper advertising to woo big City investors. But the result was still a cliffhanger.
Under City rules a result had to be declared by 3.30 yesterday afternoon. On Tuesday evening it still looked wide open.
Even the influential Prudential Corporation, which owns 2½ per cent of Tilling, failed to swing others when it rejected the offer on Tuesday.
Mr Owen Green, BTR's chief executive, attacked the insurance companies last night for abrogating their responsibilities.
The combined group will now be valued in the stock market at £1.8bn. It will put BTR, whose profits just five years ago were £29.7m, up among names such as Barclays, Grand Metropolitan and BAT Industries.
Business News, page 21

Owen statement confirms Alliance rift on defence

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent
Dr David Owen yesterday confirmed the rift in Alliance policy over the independent British nuclear deterrent when he told Mr Norman Tebbit, in a radio discussion, that an Alliance government would use Polaris as a weapon of last resort.
Earlier, at their daily press conference, Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel denied a report in yesterday's *Times* that there was any "significant difference" between the Liberals and the Social Democrats on the future role of the deterrent.
Mr Jenkins had said on Tuesday that an Alliance government could maintain "our independent deterrent for a substantial period ahead" - in spite of Mr Steel's announcement, last December, that the two parties had agreed that there would be no "independent use" of Polaris.
During a discussion on the *The World at One* on Radio 4 yesterday, Mr Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, pressed Dr Owen to say whether, in the last resort, an Alliance government would "press the button".
Dr Owen replied: "Yes, Polaris is under, at the moment, Nato commanders but there is the capacity for it to come under Britain in a situation in which Britain faced, as it saw it, a threat to its national interest. That had been the situation with Polaris and it would not change."
He repeated that the Alliance would be willing to trade Polaris for suitable reductions in Soviet strategic weaponry, but he added: "Until that happened, there would be no change in the command and control procedures."

Prince of Wales highlights farm dilemma

By a Staff Reporter
Landowners receive "an embarrassing" amount of "conflicting advice" from the Prince of Wales, it was said yesterday. His experience as the owner of such of Dartmoor through the Duchy of Cornwall suggested that the national park authority was not in full control of decision-making for the area.
Farmers who were told to conserve the countryside were sometimes simultaneously advised by the Ministry of Agriculture to take "action based entirely on arriving at an economically viable unit which disregards altogether any sympathetic consideration for the surroundings".
Mr Reagan did not disclose the proposed new upper limit, but a senior Administration official said that it would be

US seeks missile flexibility

From Mohsin Ali, Washington
between 850 and 1,450 deployed missiles.
The President maintained his other proposal to limit nuclear warheads to 5,000 each, a reduction of about one third.
The new approach is based on recommendations by the commission on strategic forces, chaired by General Brent Scowcroft, which called for emphasis to be placed on verifiable reductions of warheads rather than missiles.
The official said that the United States proposal on missile limits would not be announced publicly so that both sides in the secret negotiations could have flexibility.
The change is designed to lead America and Russia away from building multi-warhead

US works with Russia for Lebanon peace

From Our Correspondent Washington
The United States has discussed the Middle East, including Lebanon, with the Soviet Union "and our objectives to get all the foreign forces out of Lebanon", the State Department said yesterday.
A spokesman was commenting on a statement here by Mr Elie Salem, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, that he had been assured that the United States would continue its efforts and work with the Soviet Union, European allies and Arab countries to persuade Syria to withdraw.
The spokesman added: "Our objective is to get all the foreign forces out of Lebanon and restore Lebanese sovereignty. Israelis killed, page 6

A great evening's tennis on the eve of Wimbledon

at the David Lloyd Slazenger Racquet Club 17 June 1983
★ Top Professionals and Show Business Celebrities ★
★ Guest Umpires and Judges ★
★ Champagne Supper ★
★ A Souvenir video tape of your battle with the stars ★
★ Celebrity Raffle with prizes including 2 tickets for the Orient Express, the centre court at Wimbledon and a weekend at Champsy's health farm ★

On Friday next week, a team of tennis professionals, including Vijay Amritraj, Roscoe Tanner, Gene Mayer, Peter Fleming, Buster Mottram and David Lloyd, are giving up their time to play in the Binatone Pro-Celebrity Tennis Tournament against a team of celebrities which includes Kevin Keegan, James Hunt, Jodi Shekter, Trevor Eve, Desmond Lynam, JPR Williams and Peter Jay.
Tennis enthusiasts will have the chance to challenge one of the stars. And as an added bonus you will have a video tape of your match to keep as a souvenir - so bring along your tennis kit.
Or simply watch the tournament of a lifetime from the grandstand and enjoy the atmosphere of this very special event.
For ticket reservations now. 01-602 6626
Phone Lucinda Sturges on
Tickets also available from Central London branches of Keith Prowse.

Binatone Pro-Celebrity Tennis Tournament
in aid of Muscular Dystrophy Duchenne Appeal



Britain high in EEC league of illegitimacy and divorce

By Ian Murray

The illegitimacy and divorce rates in Britain are among the highest in the EEC, according to figures published yesterday by the European Commission.

They show that 125 of every 1,000 people born in Britain are illegitimate, with only France (126) and Denmark (357) higher. At the same time, the divorce rate of 2.8 per thousand of the population is equalled by Denmark, but is significantly higher than any other country except Holland (two per thousand).

The detailed figures, in 205 pages of tables, also show that legal abortion in Britain is increasing steadily, though the number of non-British people receiving them has decreased steadily since 1973.

If the statistical predictions are correct the average British boy born now can expect to live for 69.8 years, and the average girl for 75.9 years. Only French, Danish and Dutch children can expect to live longer. The figures also show that only the West German has a higher proportion of people over 65 in good health and drawing pensions.

For the first time the annual EEC statistics look at the number of foreign residents in each country. In Britain's case these total 2,137,000 of whom 673,000 come from other community countries and 1,464,000 from third world countries. France, which has a similar total population to Britain, has almost 3,500,000

foreign residents, nearly half of them from Africa. The immigrant population in West Germany totals 4,629,700, of whom 1,546,300 are from Turkey.

The figures show an encouraging drop in the rate of perinatal mortality in the United Kingdom over the past two decades. In 1960 about 33 babies in every thousand died in the months after birth, but this has now dropped to about 13. Progress in this area has, however, been greater in Ireland, where the death rate has dropped to just under seven per thousand over the same period and in Denmark, once again there is a slow growth in the birth rate in most EEC countries. Britain, with 13 children per thousand people born each year, is now higher than that for Italy, where there are on average 11 children per thousand.

This is largely explained by the enormous legal abortion rate in Italy since 1980, when the law allowing the operation was passed. Italian legal abortions are currently running at 36 per cent of all live births.

Ireland, with a birth rate of 20 per thousand, has the fastest growing population.

British couples tend to marry younger than most. The average bride is 25.3 years old, and the groom 23. Only the Belgian (22.1 years) and the Greek brides (22.3 years) are younger, and the average Belgian groom (24.6 years) is the youngest.

Builders will hold interest at 10%

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Leading housebuilders have ignored the prospect of higher mortgage rates by freezing their interest rates for home buyers at 10 per cent.

A rise in mortgage interest rates of at least one percentage point now looks certain and it is felt in some quarters that the rate could increase to 11.5 per cent within weeks.

But such builders as Wimpey, Leech Homes, and Comben, which are likely to construct 16,000 houses and flats this year, are promising buyers they will freeze interest rates at 10 per cent for at least a year.

Leech, which is building between 2,000 and 3,000 new homes in the North, will apply the freeze to all sales contracted by the end of September.

Mr David Eaton, sales director of Wimpey Homes, said his company had already pegged mortgage rates at 10 per cent for all sales until July 1, 1984. Wimpey expects to build between 10,500 and 11,000 homes this year, 73 per cent of which will go to first-time buyers.

Mr Ian Montgomery, marketing manager of the Bristol-based Comben group, said he expected to introduce a freeze after a board meeting today. The scheme, however, would apply only to first-time buyers.

Mortgage rates were cut from 12 to 10 per cent last December, which has helped increase house buying. Prices have risen sharply, by as much as 10 per cent in areas like London and the South east.

A one point rise in mortgage rates would mean the average new borrower paying an extra £7.65 a month on a £17,000 loan. But buyers in the South-east, who are taking out loans of about £25,000, would face an increase of £11.25.

Commercial property, page 28

No action against lawyer for 'retake streets' call

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar Council is not to take any action against Mr Rudi Narayan, the Indian rights barrister, over his call to people in Lambeth, south London, to repossess the streets from the police.

Mr Narayan, who already faces disciplinary proceedings by the Bar Council, made his remarks at a rowdy meeting on Tuesday night of the Lambeth Community Police Liaison Group.

He said at the meeting: "If it is necessary to fight a war of resistance to get them (the police) out off the street as a ratepayer I will lead it."

But yesterday Sir Arthur Power, secretary to the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar, said: "A barrister can operate in the political field and there is a wide latitude as to what a barrister is allowed in this field."

"In this particular case it is probably fair to say Mr Narayan was operating in a political field rather than a legal one."



Mr Narayan: Pledged to lead resistance.

Mr Narayan, a resident of Lambeth and chairman of a body called Black Rights UK, faces several charges of professional misconduct arising out of his alleged behaviour as defence counsel in the Terence May murder trial at the Central Criminal Court last year.

NUJ urges 'black' on poll night reports

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The National Union of Journalists yesterday asked its 32,000 members to "black" election night copy from the Press Association in support of a 48-hour official strike by NUJ members employed at the national news agency.

More than 130 NUJ journalists are seeking to disrupt the PA service from 10pm tonight in support of efforts to make the company's management improve its 7 per cent package pay offer.

Mr Jacob Ecclestone, the union's deputy general secretary, said: "We are urging, and exhorting all members not to handle PA copy or supply copy to PA." The guidance to members stops short of an instruction, which might fall foul of the legal ban on most "secondary action" introduced in the 1980 Employment Act.

This provision was enacted after a celebrated court case, *Express Newspapers v MacShane*, in which the Law Lords upheld the right of journalists at the *Daily Express* to "black" PA copy under then existing labour law.

Indications last night were that the NUJ request to its members will get a mixed response. Staff at *The Guardian* voted not to handle PA copy, but *Express* journalists overwhelmingly rejected the idea. Other Fleet Street NUJ chapters were considering their position. In Scotland, a "solid" response to the request was reported.

The union said in a statement yesterday: "The NUJ today declared official a strike of its members at the Press Association, due to begin as the polling booths close. The 48-hour stoppage is being called because of an unsatisfactory response by management, which shared a £2.3m profit last year, to a claim for improved wages and conditions."

"In support of the NUJ's 135 members at the Press Association, the union's 32,000 members are being asked not to do anything which would undermine their strike, particularly the supply of election results for the PA or the taking of results from television screens."

Salaries at the PA for journalists range to £12,209 a year, and the average is £12,160, according to the union. Management has offered 6.5 per cent on salaries plus a further 1 per cent on holidays and productivity money.

Mr Ecclestone said that the NUJ had responded positively to approaches from the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service for exploratory peace talks, but he accused management of rejecting these overtures. Repeated attempts to secure the views of Mr David Chipp, editor-in-chief of the PA, failed yesterday.

Meanwhile, talks at Acas on the machine room dispute at the *Financial Times*, went into a second day yesterday with no clear sign of an early end. The dispute prevented publication for the eighth successive day today.

Muslim is banned for beating

A mosque has been closed and the Muslim priest dismissed after he beat two boys during religious instruction. Their schoolteacher called in the police and social workers when the boys told him of their punishment.

Urdu leaflets are now being circulated among Sheffield's 15,000 Moslem community outlining the law on child abuse. Yesterday, a Muslim leader in the city, Dr Karim Admani, defended the community's strictures on child discipline.

Dr Admani, president of Sheffield's Muslim Council, said: "We do not really believe in soft soaping our children. We believe in discipline, and perhaps people do not like it."

The beatings at the Jhousia Mosque in Fir Vale, Sheffield, led to a special meeting of the city's Moslem Council, attended by police and social service officials. The meeting decided to send out the leaflets.

Dr Admani said that although the Moslem community did not condone what had happened, "We have little faith in the system of social workers because they do not understand our culture."



Mr David Broome, of the British showjumping team, carrying a wreath at yesterday's funeral at Priors Marston, Warwickshire, of Caroline Bradley, the showjumper, who died last week.

Surreal wife wins painter £7,000

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

A portrait combining surrealism with the even more modern concept of television has won the £7,000 John Player portrait award, made in association with the National Portrait Gallery.

The oil painting, by Michael Taylor, aged 31, is called "Caroline watching Television", and features his wife, Mr Taylor, who said yesterday that he was a figure painter, wins £6,000 and receives a commission worth £1,000 for a portrait of a "well-known sitter" which will go to the gallery's contemporary portrait collection.

The presentation was made yesterday by Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy, which has shown some of Taylor's work. It has also turned down some of his offering.

The judges, who included the artist Peter

Jail study analyses trend to suicide

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Remand and life-sentence prisoners are among the most likely to commit suicide in jail, according to preliminary research completed for an inquiry by Sir James Hennessy, Chief Inspector of Prisons.

The study also finds that long-term prisoners are more prone to suicides if they have committed sex crimes. Prisoners committing suicide tend to be slightly older than other inmates.

The rate of suicide in jails has risen over the past 25 years. Between 1957 and 1961, it was three per 10,000 average daily population in England and Wales, but in 1979 and 1980 it was five per 10,000 and four in 1981, with one inquest outstanding.

Actual numbers have also risen because the prison population has increased and become more difficult with a consequent strain on the system. In 1981, the last year for which figures are available, there were 16 suicides, all by hanging, and one death by misadventure after a mattress was set alight.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, asked Sir James to inquire into the arrangements for the prevention of suicides after widespread concern about deaths in prison.

The preliminary research is borne out by Mr Sidney Powell, secretary of the prison governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, which has been invited to give evidence to the inquiry.

Rates check group expansion

By David Walker

A large number of jobs are being offered at the commission recently created by the Government to check that councils are providing ratepayers with value for money.

Some 55 posts are being created for accountants to supplement the staff of the Local Government Audit Commission, which monitors council's books. Although the commission is supposed to encourage councils to use private auditors, the commissioners have found since they started work on April 1 that some private companies do not have the expertise to conduct adequate surveys of council spending.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Mr John Read, chairman of the commission, denied he was building an empire. He promised that the commission's headquarters staff would be kept as small as possible. But council treasurers complained that the commission is raising the fees for audit work by up to 50 per cent.

Mr Read was at pains to reassure councils that the commission was not going to interfere with their spending. "It is up to local authorities to establish what their own service priorities may be." But he gave a warning that auditors would in future be presenting reports on value for money directly to elected councillors.

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Yard check on 'sale' of A-level pages

Scotland Yard was last night investigating the removal of A-level examination papers from the University of London Exam Centre, and allegations that stolen papers were being sold for £100 each.

About 5,500 pupils who sat A-level French yesterday in London and at schools in the south-east may be asked to re-sit the examination with a new paper, and a history A-level test scheduled for next Thursday may be cancelled, depending on the outcome of police investigations.

Police were called in by *The Standard* the London evening newspaper, after it had been handed the papers by a man who said he worked in the university.

The newspaper said its informant, whose name has not been given to the police or university authorities, did not ask for any payment for the documents. He was "seething with indignation" about the lax security which made it so easy for him to remove them.

He was reported in *The Standard* yesterday as saying: "Security is a joke, absolutely appalling. Basically anyone can take these papers from the place they are being kept. I've heard there are quite a few missing, and they are selling at up to £100 a time."

Mr Alan Stephenson, secretary of the London University Examination Board, which sets A-level and O level examinations for nearly 500,000 students in London and the South-east, said yesterday: "If this man was worried about security, why did he not come to us?"

Mr Stephenson confirmed that the papers given to *The Standard* were genuine. "Obviously I cannot be happy about security if question papers are taken out. We are checking our security arrangements, and we will have to institute stricter procedures."

He said number of people would have access to the papers along the route, but in this case they were in security store in Chancery Street, Bloomsbury, with only one means of access. It must have been "an inside job".

The newspaper's informant was reported to have said he knew it was wrong to take the papers, but felt something had to be done about security. He said the examination papers came in in January, and extra part-time staff were taken on to prepare for the summer tests; any of them would have access, he said.

Mr Stephenson speculated that the private students, who are few in number compared with schools, would be more likely to form a market for stolen examination papers.

The only other recent instance of papers going missing was last June, when A-level papers were stolen from Highgate School. They were set by the Oxford and Cambridge Examinations Board. When the theft became known, replacement papers were issued within a week.

He said that the commission was not going to interfere with their spending. "It is up to local authorities to establish what their own service priorities may be." But he gave a warning that auditors would in future be presenting reports on value for money directly to elected councillors.

Woman buried by road to save pension, court told

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

An old woman's death was concealed and she was buried at night near a lay-by in a Buckinghamshire country road, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Richard Curtis, QC, for the prosecution, said that the object of the "macabre" interment was to enable three women, including the dead woman's daughter, to continue drawing her pension money to a level of £5,000.

It was nearly two years before the body was found after one of three women before the court confessed her part in the affair to relatives and the police were called.

Mrs Sonia Legrand, aged 44, and Mrs Lily Townsend, aged 45, of Droverscroft, Green Lays, Milton Keynes, denied ill-treating Mrs Lily Townsend, aged 80, a mentally disordered patient in their care.

With Mrs Legrand's mother, Mrs Winifred Grace Cooper,

Science report

Life may have had many false starts

By the Staff of Nature

Life on Earth may have begun as many as 10 times with only one branch surviving until the present, two American geophysicists are claiming.

Life is based on the tremendous variability of polypeptides: such as proteins, composed of chains of amino acids. The conceivable number of polypeptide chains is almost infinite, according to Dr David M. Rapp, of the University of Chicago, and Dr James W. Valentine, of the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Therefore, they argue, the particular set of polypeptides of which we and the rest of life on Earth are composed is only one of many that could be the basis of some form of life.

Dr Rapp and Dr Valentine thus raise the possibility that life did begin with a variety of different polypeptide groups thus a variety of different biochemistries, in many different places on Earth. However, now we have only one biochemistry; so the two researchers are forced to explain why only one might have survived.

To do so, they turn to their calculators. Biologists have a simple formula which determines the probability of survival, for say, 100 million years, of some branch of the evolutionary tree (all insects, for example).

It depends on two quantities: the probability that a branch will branch again, and the probability of extinction of a sub-branch. From the fossil record, there are broad estimates of these numbers, so Dr Rapp and Dr Valentine are able to calculate, roughly speaking, how long an initial biochemistry is likely to survive.

In practice, however, the researchers face the problem that branching and extinction probabilities are known only when a fossil record exists, which means, essentially, only in the Cambrian geological period after 600 million years ago and later.

But life had its origins much earlier, perhaps 3,600 million years ago. So do the Cambrian values apply? Dr Rapp and Dr Valentine cannot say but work their way through a series of calculations until they arrive at two tables. One estimates the probability that present life is the sole survivor of a number of life starts, for different numbers of life starts and different rates of the sub-branch extinction rate.

The second table estimates the probability that life survives at all; that, clearly, increases in the opposite direction.

The true case, the researchers suggest, lies "somewhere near the middle" of both tables.

Source: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (US) (vol 80, 2985) May 1983.

(Nature-Times News Service, 1983.)

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Prince of Wales tells landowners they risk tighter controls

By Hugh Clayton

The Prince of Wales forecast yesterday that there would be tighter controls on landowners if they did not try to meet the demands of urban visitors to the countryside. He forecast "some form of central authority" if those who hold their land in trust for future generations are not prepared to adjust to changing attitudes and pressures.

He said that the competing demands of farming and conservation on private estates could be met through compromise. But the threat of conflicting advice given to landowners such as himself was not always helpful.

The Prince was speaking in London to mark the publication of the British response to the World Conservation Strategy, which was started by international conservation agencies in 1980. The reports published yesterday, make up a proposed course of action for the new government.

The Prince concentrated on his experience as landlord of hundreds of tenants of the Duchy of Cornwall. He thus deftly avoided the national political implication of the strategy's call for government action against pollution, waste of raw materials and the destruction of habitats. "I thought I could emphasize

some of the practical problems in trying to reconcile the conflicting demands facing a large estate", he said.

Farmers were sometimes caught between opposing pressures. The Ministry of Agriculture showed them how to increase output while official bodies like the Countryside Commission wanted them to conserve the landscape. "It is little wonder that the chap opts for the biggest incentive in terms of subsidy", the Prince said. He believed that his Duchy's work to find room for economic community life on Dartmoor had contributed to the conservation strategy. "Dartmoor has in recent years become a battleground in more senses than one", the Prince added.

The Duchy was prepared to "blunt its economic objectives" on Dartmoor, but its aims and those of the local national park authority inevitably differed. "The Duchy is not a philanthropic organisation and the agricultural holdings of Dartmoor cannot make it rich", the Prince said. But he felt that "we all have a definite responsibility to respond to the genuinely held anxieties of an increasing number of people".

The Duchy was preparing a management plan for the next 20 years that might involve establishing demonstration farms. "The consultations that

have taken place with nearly 50 statutory and voluntary bodies illustrate the problems we face", the Prince said. "Almost everything that is proposed arouses argument and dissent."

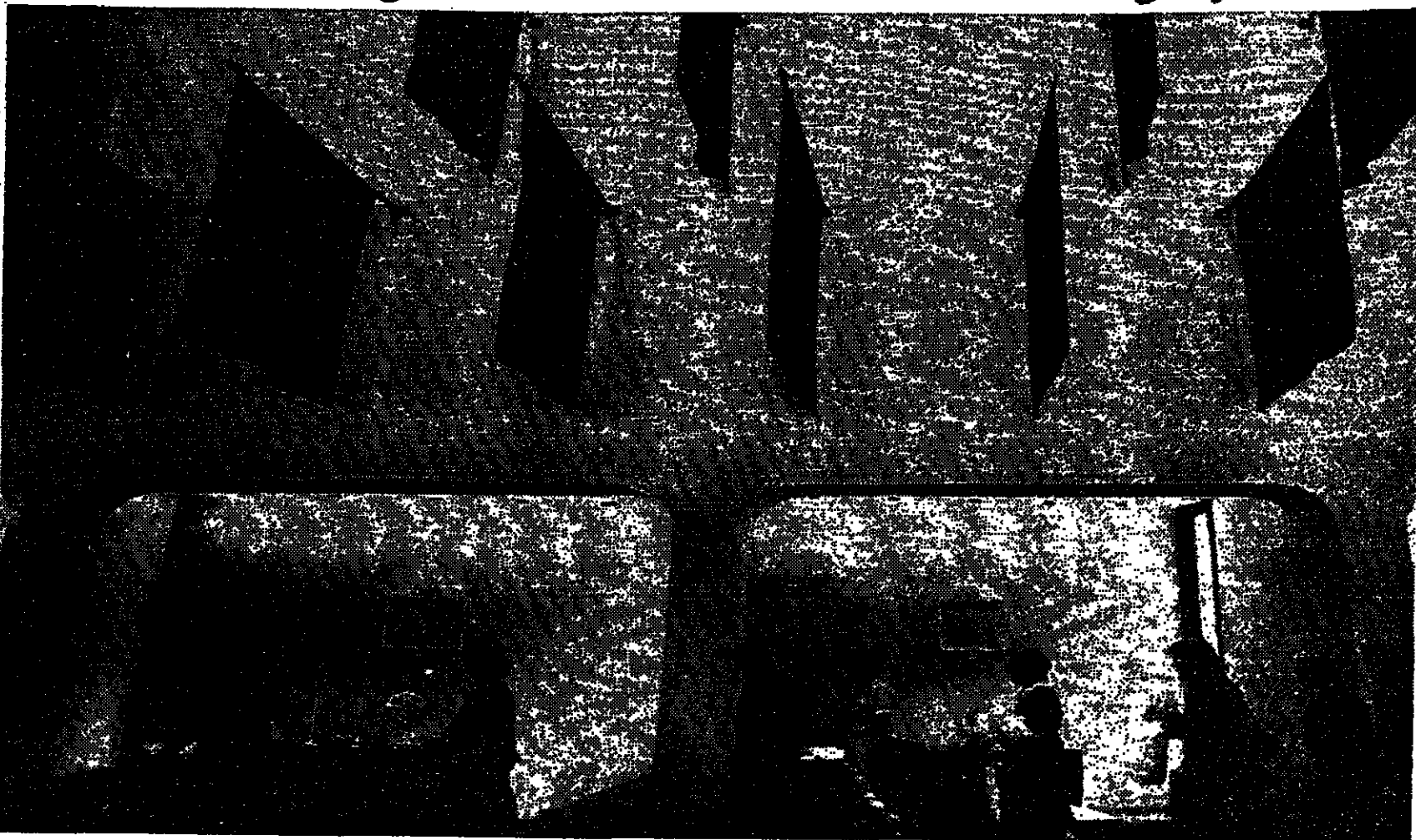
Dr David Bellamy, the television biologist, said that the world had less than five years in which to ensure survival by turning away from its present course of waste and destruction of habitats. He wanted more support for the recreational demands of visitors to the countryside. "It is about time we had some subsidies which gave some clout behind those very things that people want to do", he said.

Professor Mohammed Kassas, president of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature said that many countries had produced national responses to the strategy. His organization helped to start the World Conservation Strategy in 1980.

The reports in the British response call for tighter coastal planning controls, mild reform of wildlife protection and an injection of environmental awareness into school curricula. They call for a positive response from the new government and industry to the need to conserve and recycle resources like energy, timber and fish.

The Conservation and Development Programme for the UK: Kogan Page Ltd, 120 Pentonville Road, London N1; £13.45.

Relatives gather to remember Bluff Cove tragedy



Relatives of soldiers killed a year ago yesterday on the Sir Galahad landing at Bluff Cove in the Falklands lining up to lay wreaths at the Welsh Guards Chapel in London yesterday.

The families were said to be "still very sad and bitter" that they were not holding a memorial service at the chapel but at the Kensington Temple, Notting Hill.

The Ministry of Defence said that they could not use the chapel because a memorial plaque there was not yet ready for dedication.

Mr John Nicholson, who organized the service, said: "I would think a year is plenty of time. In some of our parish churches it took only weeks to get memorial plaques."

Some of the relatives went on to Downing Street after the ceremony to deliver a letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Others went to the chapel to lay a wreath.

"They want a national memorial in Wales and I am quite in favour of that", Mr Nicholson, South Wales

regional official of the Falklands Families Association, said.

Mr Nicholson, of Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, lost a son, Gareth, aged 19, on Sir Galahad. He said: "When we attended the cathedral service at St Paul's last year a promise was made at a lunch given afterwards that this year a service would be held at the guards' chapel. However, that has not taken place, so we decided to go ahead and have our own service."

Asked how families felt about not knowing why their sons and fathers

had been so easily bombed by Argentine planes, Mr Nicholson said: "We are all still very sad and very bitter about what happened."

The families brought a wreath of flowers shaped in the form of a leek, the crest of the Welsh Guards, to the service. A roll of honour of the 39 First Battalion Welsh Guards and three Special Air Service Regiment soldiers who died was read out by the Rev Wynn Lewis, Mr Nicholson's brother-in-law.

Photograph: Brian Harris

Roach case jury see scene of death

By Nicholas Timmins

The jury in the inquest on Colin Roach yesterday visited the scene of his death at Stoke Newington police station in north London.

The jury of 10, half of them black, were taken from Clerkenwell County Court to the police station where they spent almost 45 minutes inside and in the foyer and lobby where Mr Roach died from a shotgun blast on January 12.

They took measurements in the lobby and asked questions after earlier in court being shown the shotgun that was found several feet away from Mr Roach's body at the opposite end of the lobby.

Mr Kevin O'Callaghan, a firearms expert from the Metropolitan Police forensic science laboratory, told the inquest that all indications were that the gun had been fired inside the mouth rather than from outside.

Asked by Mr Mike Mansfield, counsel for the Roach family, if the gun could have been introduced by someone else while Mr Roach was speaking, he said that it was "possible, but it seems to me extremely unlikely".

The barrel was seven-eighths of an inch across, and the mouth "would have to open more than in general speech".

The shotgun, he said, was a common, quite inexpensive Russian 12 bore. Tests of a similar weapon had shown that it recoiled 17ft when fired off the ground, and 6ft when fired about 2ft off the ground.

A similar test firing of the actual weapon is to be made today and video taped for showing to the jury, at the request of Mr Mansfield.

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

Clerk fined for keeping secret texts

Ronald Cox, a former Foreign Office registry clerk, was fined a total of £1,200 yesterday for keeping confidential documents at his home.

Cox, aged 31, who now lives with his mother in Merriott, Somerset, told Merway magistrates in Kent yesterday, in a written statement: "I took the documents while I was based at the British Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh, because I was overworked and couldn't cope."

Cox's former home in Ormond Grove, Gillingham, Kent, was bought by Mr Duncan Griffith and wife, who found two large cardboard boxes in the attic filled with files and envelopes. There were 141 marked confidential, 51 restricted and a large number unclassified.

Cox admitted two charges brought under Section II of the Official Secrets Act: illegal possession of the files and failing to take care of them as a registry clerk. He was fined £600 for each offence.

Mr Roger Stokes, for the defence, said: "If Cox had burnt them no one would have been the wiser. It was just laziness that caused all this. No harm has been done to this country's security, nor has it caused any embarrassment."

Cox said afterwards: "All I want to do now is to go back to work and forget this silly mistake of mine". He is now employed in the accounts department of Merriott Mouldings.

BBC cancels TV teams' coverage of papal visit

By Kenneth Gossling

BBC television teams assigned to cover the Pope's visit to Poland, which starts next Thursday, have been withdrawn as a protest against the Polish authorities' refusal to grant visas and work permits to Mr Tim Sebastian, BBC Europe correspondent, and Mr Jan Repa, of the external services.

Arrangements are being made with American networks and the European Broadcasting Union to receive coverage of the seven-day visit.

The BBC said it greatly regretted the refusal of visas to two important reporters, both of whom spoke Polish.

Visas and permits had been granted to the technical teams from television news and the Newsnight programme, but they would not now cover the visit.

The BBC said the refusal of visas was contrary to the spirit

of a meeting Mr Alasdair Milne, its director general, had earlier this year with Polish Embassy officials who had said they wanted the BBC to keep open its Warsaw office and to report events in the country.

Last March, Mr Sebastian, winner of the television reporter of the year award for his coverage of Poland, was granted a week's temporary visa to report on relief efforts.

Mr Kevin Ruane, the BBC's resident correspondent, was expelled last December but after lengthy discussions was reinstated. Mr Ruane will report the Pope's visit for BBC radio and the external services. It had been planned that Mr Sebastian and Mr Repa would deal with the considerable demands for coverage from all BBC television and external services programmes.

Doctors criticized in survey

By David Nicholson-Lord

Long waits at surgeries and difficulties in getting appointments are the commonest complaints about general practitioners, according to a survey by *Which?* published today. But 14 per cent of respondents expressed lack of confidence in the diagnosis of their GPs.

A survey of 448 practice telephone numbers outside surgery hours by *Which?* researchers found "no contact" in a quarter of the calls, because the number was persistently engaged, there was no reply or the caller spoke to someone who said no doctor could be contacted.

In a section, "Getting the most from your GP", the magazine advises patients to plan and make notes on what they are going to say in the consultation. It suggests patients should ask for an explanation of the workings of

any drugs prescribed and any terms they do not understand and to make a note of anything they might forget.

The magazine surveyed 1,300 members of the Consumers' Association, half of whom said they had no problem with their GPs in the past year. The commonest complaints cited by the other half were waits at the surgery, listed by 26 per cent of the sample, difficulties in getting appointments, 20 per cent.

Inconvenient surgery hours, brusque, high-handed or protective receptionists, feeling rushed with the GP and having something poorly explained by the doctor, were listed by another 12 per cent.

Of the numbers citing poor diagnosis, the magazine comments: "We cannot tell whether these complaints are justified but the fact that some patients

do not have confidence in their GPs is worrying."

The telephone survey showed that in a third of the cases, an out-of-hours caller spoke direct to a GP or a deputizing service; in another 40 per cent, the contact was "indirect" and the caller was given another telephone number to ring.

Typical comments from respondents included criticisms of appointments systems where times "seems to be of little consequence once you have arrived at the surgery".

But as evidence of how much GPs varied and patients varied in their expectations of them, *Which?* contrasts criticisms from members that the answer to their medical problems is "always tablets" with the comment: "The doctor is particularly keen on not using drugs unless absolutely necessary".

Dogs freed in kennel raid

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

Intruders broke into kennels on Tuesday night and released 51 hunting beagles at Ledham in Wirral. Twelve of the hounds were lured into a van and the rest were let loose in a caravan park near by.

One of the animals was knocked down as dislocated a hip. The release of the dogs from the Royal Rock Beagles Kennels was discovered after a pack of beagles trailed a cyclist, who alerted police.

Mr Charles Dowson, aged 80, the kennel huntsman, spent the night rounding up the 12 beagles who roamed for miles after they were freed.

Mr Dowson's wife Isabel, aged 68, yesterday claimed an animal liberation group was responsible for the raid on the kennels.

Animal liberation groups denied carrying out the raid.

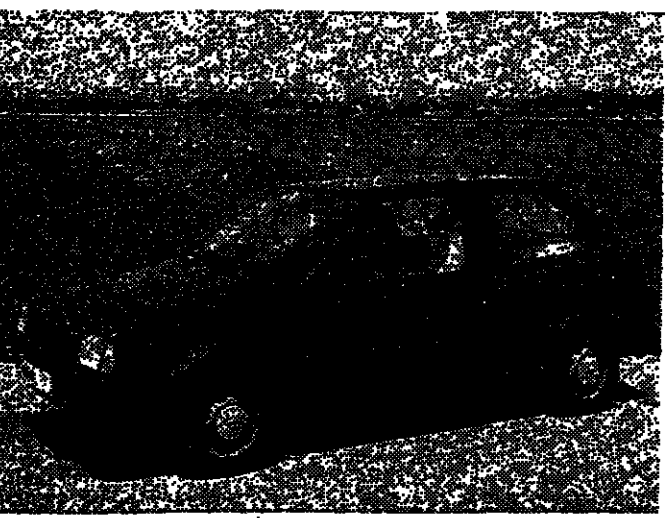
Nissan offers 67.3mpg Metro rival

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

A formidable new Japanese car appears today to contest the crowded competitive small car market. The 1-litre Nissan Micra (right) is claimed to be the most economical car in Britain, returning 67.3 mpg at 56 mph.

This is no overbearing freak prepared specially for an advertising campaign. The all-new aluminium engine produces an outstanding 55 bhp. Helped by an extremely low overall weight of less than 13 cwt, the Micra has lively acceleration and a top speed approaching 90 mph.

At a fraction under 12ft, it is 10in longer than the market leader, BL's Metro. Standard fittings include reclining front seats with built-in head rests, cloth upholstery, radio, cigar



lighter, quartz digital clock and a rear wash-wipe system.

But the biggest attraction will be the five-speed gearbox on the GL version. The absence of a fifth gear is very noticeable in the Metro at motorway speeds. Yet the

Micra GL will sell for £4,149, compared with £4,599 for BL's petrol-economy model, the Metro HLE. Two other versions are being imported, the DX with a four-speed box and lower compression engine, at £3,749, and the GL automatic, at £4,450.

Better locks for flats in London

The Greater London Council intends to spend £180,000 to making its houses and flats safer, especially for women. The pilot scheme for housing estates in four boroughs will include fitting individual homes with stronger front doors, locks and hinges.

The security measures will make it impossible for an intruder to kick a door off its hinges or split the frame. The women's committee chairman, Miss Valerie White, said: "This move will go a long way to help families, and women in particular, to feel safe in their home environment. I hope it will be implemented on a wider scale so that more women might benefit."

The scheme comes after a report to the housing and women's committees that women needed to feel safer at home because they spent more time there than other members of the family. Mr Anthony McBrearty, said: "The pilot estates to be chosen in consultation with boroughs and tenants will be monitored to assess the success of the package".

Tower Hamlets, Lewisham, Lambeth and Hackney have been chosen for the scheme.

Soho club fire survivor tells court of attack

A fire last July which killed seven Chinese at an illegal Soho gambling club was caused by a group of Vietnamese who burst in carrying a can of petrol, the only survivor of the blaze said yesterday.

Mr Johnny Poon, a croupier, aged 24, told the Central Criminal Court in London that they were armed with table leg clubs and poured petrol over the door, gaming tables and floor.

One of the men had a cigarette lighter, Mr Poon said. He knew from his gesture that he was going to set the place on fire.

The other Chinese at the premises in Gerard Street, were standing by the office and were told that there was no need to run away. Mr Poon said: "I managed to jump out as the fire

got worse. It was very fierce and I had no time to look back."

Two Vietnamese refugees, Vu Linh Nguyen, aged 24, of Knights House, Huntman Street, Walworth, and Van Thinh Phan, aged 21, of Rutland House, Milner Estate, Woolwich, both south London, denies arson and murder.

The jury was told that a group of the Vietnamese returned to the club after the argument over a gambling session.

Mr Poon said that he called for help before pouring two buckets of water on to the fire from street level.

"I went down there again with a policeman, but the door was locked. I tried to kick it open but there were fumes everywhere and black smoke pouring out."

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Thatcher and Foot find agreement in PR attack

By John Winder

Geoffrey Smith

COMMENT

From first to last this campaign has been dominated by Mrs Thatcher. She is not the only Prime Minister in the postwar years to have exercised such an influence over an election: Churchill in 1945, Macmillan in 1959 and Wilson in 1970 - all of them not only personified the appeal of their party, but also seemed to take up most of the political stage. The campaign in each case revolved around their personalities.

Yet none of them offers a precise comparison with Mrs Thatcher's performance in 1983. For all their personal dominance, Churchill, Macmillan, and Wilson led their parties to catastrophic defeat, while Mrs Thatcher will register the biggest political surprise of the century if she fails now to win a resounding triumph. Macmillan was both dominant and triumphant. He also succeeded, like Mrs Thatcher, in pulling the Conservatives up from a mid-term trough. Indeed, in one sense, his achievement in restoring Conservative morale after Suez was even more remarkable than Mrs Thatcher's has been.

Yet even Macmillan at the height of his powers exercised quite such a personal sway over the political scene. He represented his party, he did not have a drawing power that was essentially distinct from it. But one of the curiosities of this campaign has been to hear people frequently describe themselves on the doorstep not as Conservatives but as Thatcherites.

How has she managed to have such an appeal? Humour was an important part of the armoury of Churchill, Macmillan and Wilson. Most great leaders have been people in whom the human juices flowed. But Mrs Thatcher exudes neither a sense of fun, nor an obvious sense of humanity, and certainly no sense of human frailty. The powers of the Presidency, Adlai Stevenson said in 1952, were such as to "smother

The Prime Minister and Mr Michael Foot found themselves in agreement yesterday when Mrs Thatcher endorsed a bitter attack on proportional representation by the Labour leader.

It was one of two questions posed to Mr Foot at the Labour press conference yesterday which were based upon the possibility of a Labour defeat today. He told a journalist who asked if his name would go forward to the party conference as leader if the party were defeated tomorrow: "I am not contemplating failure but victory tomorrow, so the question does not arise."

At first Mr Foot attempted to give the same treatment to the question about the feelings of the electorate if it put the Alliance into second place but the Labour Party won more seats with fewer votes. That, he said, was entirely hypothetical.

A few moments later, after one of his colleagues had replied to another question, Mr Foot returned voluntarily to the subject.

"We in the Labour Party and myself especially are bitterly opposed to a system of proportional representation because I believe that it would destroy the connexion between the MP and his own constituency which I regard as being one of the essential protections of our democracy in this country."

He complained that the case for proportional representation put by the Alliance was always about how it represented other people but did not go into the

question of what happened in individual constituencies.

The present campaign was being fought between individual candidates in constituencies where they appeal to people who know them.

"If we were to abandon the British parliamentary system and go in for proportional representation we would greatly injure one of the things which has sustained democracy in this country over the years: the capacity and right of an elected MP to go back to his constituents and ask for support from them."

That had protected some of the greatest parliamentarians in history. If Mr Churchill had not been able to appeal to his constituents in the 1930s, he might have been swung out of Conservative Central Office and if Aneurin Bevan had not been able to do so he might have been dealt with by a strictly disciplinary national council of the time.

"I am very sorry Liberals do not try to sustain this principle of democracy. I do not say there are not other forms of democracy, but this one is very important."

"I do not believe that the party machine should dictate to MPs in all circumstances. That notion is contrary to our ideas of democracy in this country."

When Mrs Thatcher was told that Mr Foot had attacked proportional representation she said: "That is one aspect on which we can agree. Many people in the Alliance party agreed when they were in the Labour Party."

The eyes have it in Thatcherland

By Alan Hamilton

The body may be absent on affairs of state, but the face is inescapable. Mrs Thatcher's steady, steely gaze peers in profusion from the hedges and drooping willows of Finchley's front gardens, their careful suburban manicure a perfect match for the immaculate hairstyle on the full-colour poster.

The eyes seem to watch with disapproval peeping surreptitiously from among the greenery, until you feel like a naughty boy on an apple-stealing mission as you creep about in search of the other parties' headquarters.

It is barely conceivable that Mrs Thatcher should lose the seat she has held in seven contests since 1959, yet Finchley is no unassailable Tory bastion, and it is likely to become less so. She first took the seat 24 years ago with a majority of 16,260, a margin, which by 1979 election had been whittled away to 7,878, a drop at least partly explained by a considerably reduced electoral roll.

Her share of the vote gradually slipped over the years, but she recovered most of it in 1979, although the swing to the Tories in Finchley was only 4.8 per cent, compared with 5.2 per cent nationally.

This year she has paid seven visits to her constituency. Her agent, Mr Andrew Thomson, a voluble energetic Scot, adopts a visaged near-religious joy when he extols her ability to remember names and faces. She has paid only three visits during the campaign: that, think Thomson, is enough after 24 years in the seat. No big-name guest speakers to support, or upstage her, and no public meetings; just a team of 800 canvassers, and those staring posters.

Since 1979, when they took 32.7 per cent of the vote, Finchley Labour Party has been doing a respectable job of nipping at the Thatcher heels.

Mr Laurence Spiegel, a Camden social worker, aged 30, is the Labour candidate, running his campaign from the back room of his modest East Finchley terrace house. All, he says, is not well in Thatcherland: unemployment in Finchley has trebled since 1979, with 500 redundancies at the main employer, CAV Lucas.

Dr Margaret Joachim, a computer consultant, aged 33, who is standing for the Alliance, takes heart from the fact that in the 1982 local elections, the Alliance polled more votes in Finchley than Labour, without winning a single seat.

Finchley's voters will have the longest ballot paper of any of the 650 constituencies, with eight fringe candidates competing with the three main parties from the inevitable publicity which the Prime Minister's presence brings.

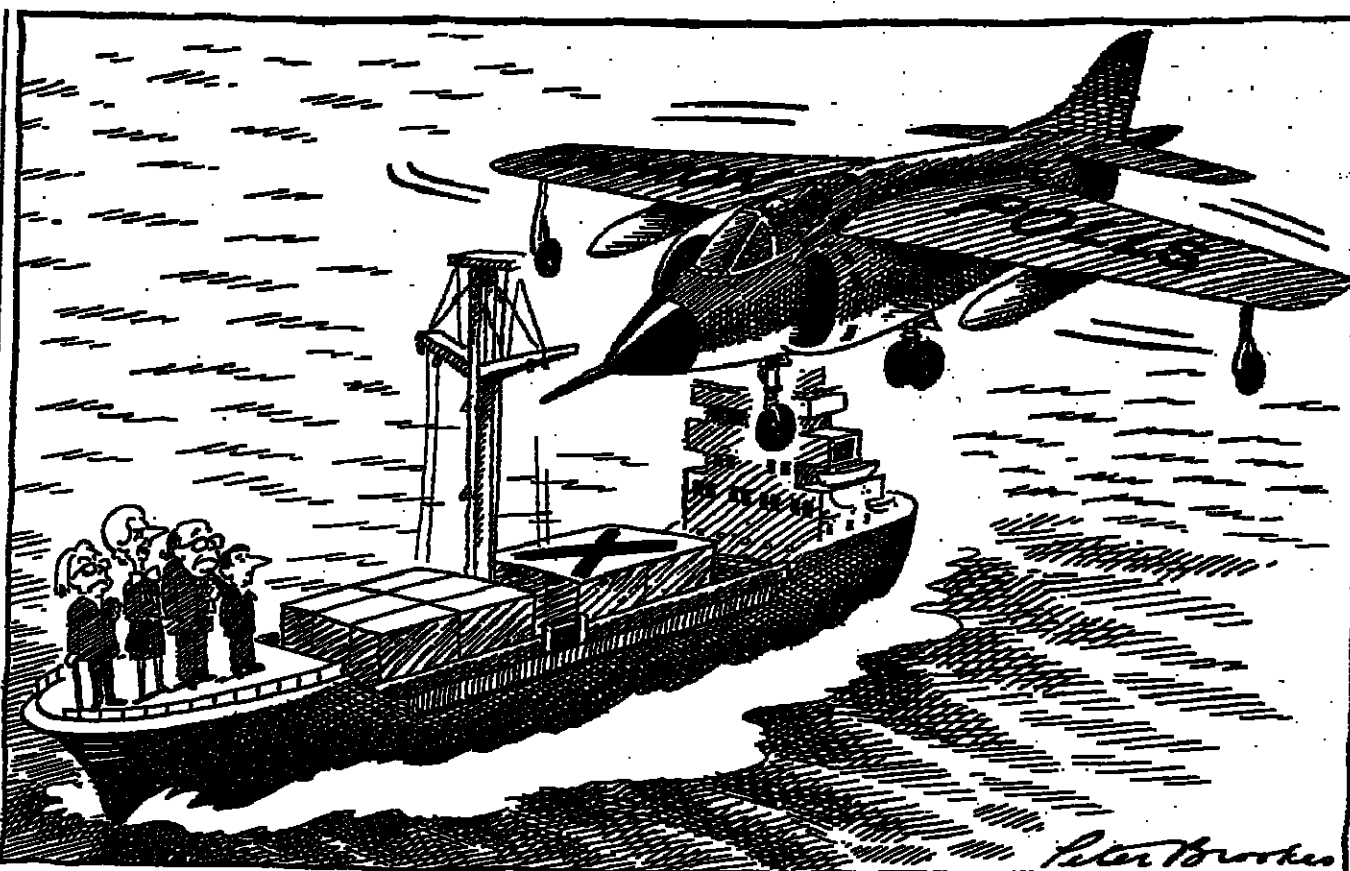
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Pin-point accuracy?

Chancellor cuts fine figure

By Rodney Cowton

The Conservative campaign truck moved away from the centre of Newport, Isle of Wight, bearing the Chancellor of the Exchequer momentarily the wrong way down a one-way street.

That induced a paroxysm of indignation among bystanding Liberals, one of whom looked as though he might just possibly attempt a citizen's arrest.

Despite that, the Conservative candidate, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, seemed in no doubt that she was moving in the right direction to wrest The Island, as it is referred to, from the Liberal Mr Stephen Ross. Sir Geoffrey Howe was there as part of a day in Wexham, to help the momentum of Mrs Bottomley's campaign.

After the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey has been perhaps the central figure in Mrs Thatcher's administration, holding the Government as firmly as he could to its chosen economic strategy.

When heard on radio and television his manner of speaking is so unemphatic, so unadorned, that one marvels that he has the strength of personality to be so stern a Chancellor.

Seeing him on the stump in the Isle of Wight things become a little clearer. In the flesh his manner is more direct and outgoing. On walkabouts he wastes no time on those who truculently refuse his hand, but when someone good-naturedly declines, Sir Geoffrey insists: "Yes, you must, shaking hands is good for you."

His hand feels strong and heavy, as though it was not unused to physical work. His physique is curious, short in the leg and long in the body, plump but with a yeoman's frame underlying it. Suddenly one realizes that manner and body are in harmony, a superficial, yet effective disguise, and a degree of bodily flash, both concealing a fairly implacable strength.

He resolutely rejects demands for special tax concessions for various sectional interests, and at Southampton delivers a little homily on the sin of promising too much.

Widening North-South rift

By Ronald Faux

The strong running of the Conservatives in the polls has threatened to deepen the traditional divide between North and South with some dark spectres materialising around Sheffield. The leader of the left-wing controlled city council has written to *The Times* giving a warning that political leaders in areas hardest hit by Conservative policies would be demanding maximum separation from central government. Those who had the privilege of leading large and powerful communities, Mr David Blissett wrote, would have to take whatever steps were necessary to protect the lives and wellbeing of their people.

The expectation in the northern constituencies is that Mr Blissett will have his divide and that Labour will hold its hard core of seats with some erosion around the edges but nothing that should seriously threaten the powerful Labour enclaves in South Yorkshire, Manchester and Liverpool.

There are marginals which on the evidence of the local elections could become Conservative - notably Bolton and Bury - but the left supporters are already deepening the moat between West-minister and a number of northern city halls, a division which some political specialists believe is a red herring. They argue that the division which will be intensified by a strong Tory win is not between North and South but between the inner-city and urban areas generally against the suburban and rural communities throughout Britain.

New constituency boundaries, a touch of intermarriage here and there and some strong hopes for the SDP/Alliance could cause some unexpected results in the North and the departure from Parliament of some well-known northern MPs. The ultra-militant Mr Pat Wall, standing as the official Alliance candidate against the

former MP, Mr Ben Ford, in Bradford North is a prime example of the divisions within the Labour Party itself. Mr Ford is standing as independent Labour. Next door in Bradford West Mr Edward Lyons, the sitting member who switched to the SDP, faces another left-wing Labour candidate in Mr Max Madden, the former MP for Sowerby. Mr Madden decided against fighting his old constituency, or the fifth of it that remain in the sprawling new boundaries of Calder Valley. The new area has a far less predictable political future than Bradford West where there is a strong Labour tradition.

On Merseyside the fact that local government recently swung into the hands of the extreme left appears not to be helping Labour, particularly in the newly-created constituency of Liverpool Broadgreen. The contest there has been bitter between a militant Marxist rebel Liberal, and official Alliance candidate and a right-wing Tory.

An elder statesman bows out

By Ian Bradley

Mr Jo Grimond has been contemplating this election with mixed emotions. At a national level he sees his long-held dream of a realignment on the left in British politics becoming a reality as the Liberal-SDP Alliance overtakes Labour in the polls.

However, at a personal level he is sad that he will not be in the new Parliament elected today since, on the verge of his seventieth birthday he decided to leave politics after 33 years as MP for Orkney and Shetland.

Last week he undertook a gruelling five-day tour of hopeful Alliance seats from London to Caithness and Sutherland. This week he has been touring the islands of his old constituency in order to ensure that they stay in Liberal hands.

Mr Grimond is amazed at the tactical mistakes which he feels Labour have made in this campaign. He sees it as a collapse from the top.

"It is amazing to me that Labour have not fielded Eric Varley and Peter Shore more.



Mr Jo Grimond: A personal manifesto.

To swing from Michael Foot, whom I regard as a hypocrite of the first order, to the arch bully Denis Healey is crazy. "My experience of elections is that at least a quarter of the voters do not make up their minds until the last week. To address these floating voters as if they were the party faithful with your most abrasive characters is a great mistake."

In many ways, Mr Grimond feels that the Liberals have become too organized at the

expense of developing radical new ideas.

In an effort to promote some of the ideas which he hopes the Alliance will take up, Mr Grimond has written a personal manifesto which was published as a book last week.

Its ideas, however, seem closer to those of Mrs Thatcher than to the SDP/Alliance. It firmly rejects a statutory incomes policy, calls for considerably more decentralization and flirts with the ideas of education vouchers and the free market of the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Mr Grimond, however, still sees himself as being closer to the Alliance than the Thatcherite Conservatives. In the long term he hopes the Alliance will become less bland and conservative and strike out in a more radical and libertarian direction, attacking bureaucracy and centralization and the notion that the government can do everything, which he regards as the three great evils of modern political life.

Mr Grimond's personal manifesto is published by Martin Robertson, price £8.95.

THE ISSUES STATE INDUSTRIES

Public good versus private gain

By Edward Townsend

Two subjects cause such polarization of Britain's two main political parties as nationalization. It is a concept that forms part of the bedrock of socialism while striking fear into the hearts of supporters of free enterprise.

To many a bewildered elector the impact of party political dogma on the ownership of vast areas of industry does little to inspire confidence that they will be more efficient or that prices will be lowest and quality highest.

How will the sale of shares in British Airways, in which huge sums of public money are invested, bring down transatlantic air fares? Or, how can the return of British Aerospace to public ownership encourage new aircraft orders?

Such issues have in the past few years often exploded into controversy, particularly in the cases of Amersham International and Britoil, but they have not caused widespread acrimony in the election.

Continuing the programme of privatization is a key element of the Conservative manifesto while the Labour Party manifesto is committed to returning to full public ownership the businesses already hived off. The Alliance favours a mixture of public and private industry and a sweeping away of "political interference."

Although the figure is not mentioned in the manifesto, a new Tory government would expect to reap almost £3,000m from the sale of assets in the three years to 1986.

To the Labour Party, the nationalization concept is an anathema. Its emergency programme to reverse most of the Conservatives' actions includes renationalization of all that has been sold "with compensation of no more than that received when the assets were denationalized."

Labour's manifesto promise that a significant public stake will be established in electronics, pharmaceuticals, health equipment and building materials and other sectors "as required by the national interest" leaves the door open for the most widespread nationalization ever contemplated. The initial programme, according to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, would cost £20,000m. Business leaders and, more appropriately, nationalized industry chairmen themselves, have been convinced that privatization is good. The Alliance, however, says: "We must get away from the incessant and damaging warfare over the ownership of industry and switch the emphasis to how well it performs."

Proportions of state-owned companies sold by Conservative Government since 1979 and value of share offer.

Company	50%	25%	25%
Cable and Wireless	224	219	
Associated British Ports	49%		
Formerly British Transport Docks Board			
British Aerospace	50%	100	
British Telecom	51%	257	
British Transport Hotels	21	36	
British Rail	100%		
Amersham International	100%	63.7	
National Freight Corporation	100%	62	

Conservative Candidates for privatization: British Telecom, (51%) Rolls-Royce, British Airways, BRS, most state-owned airports. Share capital to be introduced into National Bus Company and gas and electricity industries.

Rivals' feud fuels brutal fight

Candidates R Wainwright (L/All) J Holt (C) T J Kenyon (Ind) A Williams (Lab)

The peaceful, picturesque hamlets and lush rolling hills of the Colne Valley form an incongruous setting for what has sadly become one of the more brutal election fights, a battle in which personalities seem as much at issue as policies.

Publicly, neither Mr Richard Wainwright, former Liberal Party chairman, nor ex-Liberal Mr John Holt, who is challenging for the Tories, take more than the permitted pot-shots at each other. Most of the time, they fire rhetorical blanks.

But privately, enmity runs deep and rumblings of the feud have started to spill over on to voters' doorsteps.

Mr Wainwright, who is fighting his eleventh campaign, has let it be known that he is unwilling to appear on the same public platform as Mr Holt because he believes debating time would be wholly taken up in arguments.

The old Colne Valley constituency has a proud tradition of Liberalism, its people a strong measure of political independence. In 1966 it was the only seat Labour failed to hold throughout the whole of Britain.

Local sport and recreation, Mr Wainwright observes wryly, was tactical voting. Boundary reorganization has changed dramatically many of the old

task. Not only is it the birthplace of his rival but Mr Holt also represents the area on West Yorkshire county council, and has enormous public respect.

Mr Holt, aged 44, an ex-football association referee, plays heavily on his local pedigree. As an exporter of Valley-woven cloth, he says he provides work at six textile mills and as a county councillor, he believes he has a reputation for getting things done for people. He also thinks supporting Huddersfield Town Football Club might be worth a few extra votes.

"People are fed up with politicians shouting and calling each other names," said the candidate who claims to have a virtual army of 500 supporters working on his behalf. "They want someone who will give them practical help."

Mr Wainwright agrees that there is widespread feeling that the North is being neglected in favour of the South-east.

As a newcomer to national politics, Mr Williams, a college lecturer aged 34, acknowledges that he is an outsider. With unemployment at 14.2 per cent, he argues that Colne Valley's cosy image as an enclave of affluence has changed dramatically.

"At the end of the day a handful of votes is going to decide the winner," he forecasts.

But for Mr Wainwright there is no such succour. Pundits believe that to stand a realistic chance of winning, he has to woo voters in the new area of Lindley, which is a daunting

Colne Valley

Profile of COLNE VALLEY

1981 % Own Occ	73
1981 % Loc Auth	75
1981 % Black/Asian	4
1981 % 16-24	26
1981 % Prof man	18
1982 electorate	68,925
1979 BSC/NTN national result: Lab 2,500	(over 50%)

Notes: % Own Occ proportion during their own homes; % Loc Auth proportion of council tax; % Black/Asian proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % 16-24 proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: Professional, higher managerial, and intermediate managerial; BSC/NTN national result: Calculation of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BSC/NTN study team.

1979 General election: Wainwright R. 26,161; Holt J. 26,161; Kenyon T. J. 17,759; Williams A. 12,142; Ross T. J. 11,420; 100% Lab Maj 2,500

Mr Wainwright: Unwilling to share platform.

Mr Tom Cox: Strong record of service.

Mr Wainwright: Unwilling to share platform.

Mr Tom Cox: Strong record of service.

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Mr Tom Cox: Strong record of service.

Mr Wainwright: Unwilling to share platform.

Alliance plays a losing card

CANDIDATES

T. Cox (Lab) P. Berbridge (NF) R. Harris (C) L. Lewis (Comm) J. Newberger (SDP/All) H. Patel (Ind) C. Redgrave (WRF) M. S. Shaw (Eco)

The new constituency of Tooting is a slice of that south London territory of parks and terraces that separates the inner city decay of Brixton from the suburban avenues around the All-England Tennis Club at Wimbledon.

Once the area returned Ernest Bevin to Parliament, and in the streets of Tooting proper there is still a feel of the old London working class, Labour, but with solid Bevinite views on the nation's defence.

Bevin's supporters are now elderly. Labour's full-time agent, Mr Ken Solly, a 30-year veteran of the area, thinks they will turn out strongly today for Labour because they have been hurt by the spending reductions made by Wandsworth's ostentatiously Thatcherite Conservative council.

But elsewhere in Tooting there is the usual inner London mix: a substantial Asian population, largely unimpressed by the candidacy of Mr Harihar Patel on behalf of the Confederation of Indian Organizations; middle class gentrifiers, who have recently shifted the Tooting Labour Party leftwards; and a large band of middle people,

Profile of TOOTING

1981 % Own Occ	43.8
1981 % Loc Auth	27.1
1981 % Black/Asian	10.7
1981 % 16-24	27.2
1981 % Prof man	16.6
1982 electorate	68,925
1979 BSC/NTN national result: Lab maj 5,000	

who have traditionally given Labour its majority in Tooting.

For 13 years Tooting, on the old boundaries, returned as its Labour MP Mr Tom Cox, who is standing again. "Lacklustre", the Social Democrats call him; but elsewhere, including the Conservative camp, Mr Cox is "a nice chap" with an acknowledged record of constituency case-work. Hardly an ornament of the legislative chamber, Mr Cox seems to be the type of MP who cannot walk down Balham High Street without a cheery greeting from a constituent he has helped in some way.

Despite voting for Mr Denis Healey in the Labour leadership stakes, Mr Cox's position has not been threatened, although some have noted a higher ratio of self-consciously left-wing rhetoric in the campaign literature.

Beyond what the respective manifestos say about peace, jobs, freedom and a fresh start, the issues in Tooting are these: Mr Cox is seeking to mesh his constituency service record with criticism of hospital closure and Wandsworth council.

Conservative-run since 1978,

Tooting

Profile of TOOTING

1981 % Own Occ	43.8
1981 % Loc Auth	27.1
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1981 % Prof man	16.6
1982 electorate	68,925
1979 BSC/NTN national result: Lab maj 5,000	

the council will score Conservative points with ratepayers but its cuts in social services have stung, and the much-vaunted privatization of refuse collection is running into local criticism.

The Conservative candidate is a cerebral figure: Mr Robin Harris, fresh from a stint at Sir Geoffrey Howe's elbow as Treasury special adviser. Since Tooting and monetarism might not be compatible, Mr Harris is making a strong down-market play for the working-class anti-crime vote.

The Alliance card is the personality of the Social Democrat candidate, Mrs Julia Newberger, who is a minor media celebrity. She is a vivacious figure, the female rabbi of the Liberal Jewish synagogue.

Mr Newberger admits that in a more heavily Jewish constituency, the liberality of his theological position might have told against her. As it is, Tooting's minorities, who include the Poles, the Irish and the West Indians, seem plugged into the traditional party set-up.

Despite the Alliance's characteristically naive hopes, Tooting is a straight two-way fight. Mrs Doreen Purefoy, the conservative agent drafted in from Surrey for the duration, estimated that the Conservatives need a swing of about 3.8 per cent, allowing for the new boundaries. "There will be a close fight between Tory and Labour, with a recent," she predicted.

David Walker

Pym accuses Labour

Powell faces toughest fight

Guide to broadcasting

ELECTION JUNE 83

Pym criticizes Labour for ignoring 'vote losing' EEC

By Amanda Haigh

Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, yesterday accused the Labour Party of deliberately ignoring the EEC during the election campaign because they knew it was a vote-loser.

"It is because the Labour Party realizes taking us out is a very unpopular line and a British people realize it is very much in our interests politically and economically to remain in the Community. For that reason it has not really been an issue. There is no doubt we have won the argument decisively," he said at the Conservatives' early morning press conference.

Moments earlier, at the Labour conference, Mr Michael Foot, had been asked why he had not included withdrawal from the EEC among the five priorities he has just set out for a future Labour Government. None of the Labour press conferences has been devoted to this issue and Mr Eric Heffer, the party's European and Community affairs spokesman, has not been used at the conference.

Mr Foot said there had been no exclusion or attempt to

Hiding doubt in the green hills of co Down

If this campaign proves to be Mr Enoch Powell's last hurrah at the hustings, his supporters will remember for years the scene at his penultimate meeting in a small town perched high above the lush green fields of co Down.

He marched with his wife, Pamela, into Rathfriland's Church square amid a riot of colourful uniforms as seven bands, from accordion to flute and bagpipe to silver, brought crowds onto the streets.

Nothing emitting from the cacophony of sound appeared to be beating a retreat for Official Unionist hopes in the marginal constituency. Although their names would be tongue twisters for anyone outside Ulster, their presence to support Mr Powell is a clear indication of how hard he is having to fight to hold the seat he first won in 1974.

It is well known among Unionists that Mr Powell does not greatly favour bands at his election rallies, but they are a powerful attraction and highly symbolic in loyalist politics. As one Official Unionist said: "Paisley's lot came through here and could only muster one of their own bands. That's how bad they are doing."

Yet another potent symbol was at Mr Powell's side as he sat with party dignitaries on the back of a truck draped with the Union flag. Lady Brookebo-

rough, widow of Northern Ireland Prime Minister between 1942-63, was there and in cash no one had noticed the audience were reminded that she came from old Loyalist stock and was lending her support.

Even the Queen and Queen Mother got a mention in a speech in which the local assembly representative castigated the Democratic Unionist Party before making an inadvertent slip when he advised people to put a cross at the name of Mr Powell which was "at the bottom of the poll".

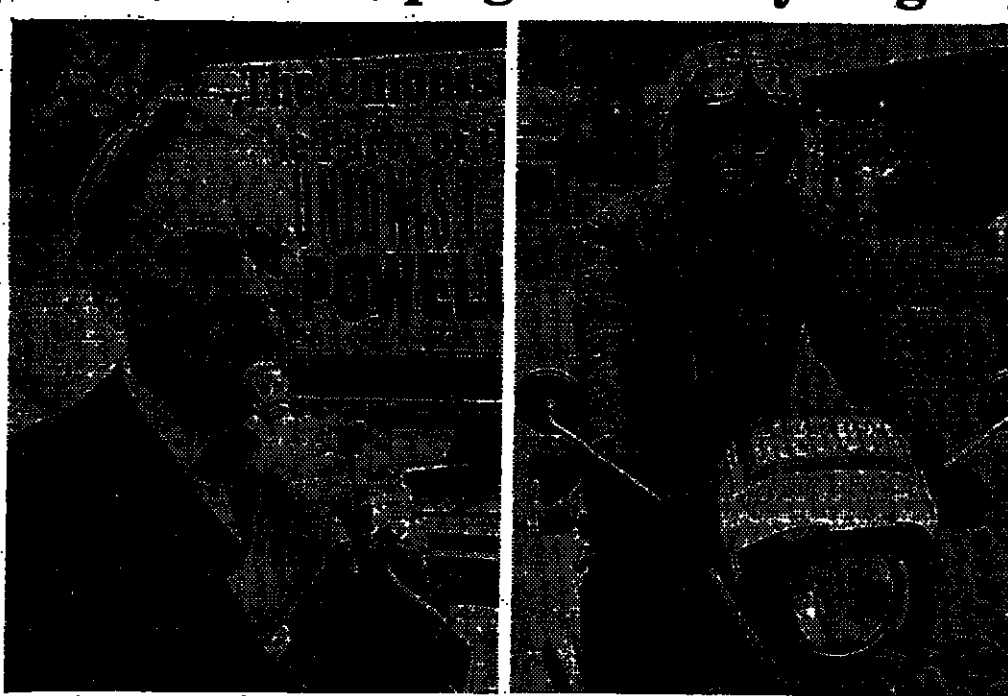
While other speakers attack their opponents and warn of the danger of handing the seat to a Republican, Mr Powell has struck throughout to three themes. They are passionately expounded with all his formidable logic.

His 300-strong audience of ruddy faced country people do not appear to warm to him but are impressed that someone of his international standing is their candidate, backing their cause.

Nowhere is too small for him to stop and nowhere is too hostile a territory. "I am now going to talk to the sheep at the crossroads, then I will do the impossible, and make a Unionist speech in Castledillon."

He did both with only one house at the crossroads, and in Castledillon the Provisional Sinn Féin banners were fluttering across the main street.

Official Unionist hopes are high that Mr Powell will hold the seat, but even among the



Mr Powell canvassing in Dundrum, co Down, while Mr Christopher Gibbons, right, goes in search of a Labour supporter in Sutton Coldfield

Where optimism is a Labour rally

With just 24 hours left to win over the hearts and minds of voters in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, the safest Conservative seat in Britain, the Labour candidate, Mr Christopher Gibbons, a barrister, stuck to his well-tried campaign programme yesterday morning and

prosecuted shoplifters and careless motorists in a nearby magistrates' court.

It is not that Mr Gibbons has given up any hope of victory. Such wild thoughts never entered his mind in the first place. "You have to take a realistic view of the matter. You are probably not going to win and the next thing that follows," he says, pausing, "... is that you are going to come third."

Sutton Coldfield, the least working-class constituency outside London, is to the Tories

what Rhondda is to Labour - impregnable. Mr Norman Fowler, its fortunate MP since 1974, attracted almost 70 per cent of the votes cast in 1979 and the chance of Mr Gibbons ending the local hegemony today is as likely as Screaming Lord Sutch defeating Mrs Thatcher in Finchley.

And so the former Birmingham city councillor has spent most mornings during the campaign prosecuting for the local police before daring to venture out and receive his daily ration of abuse and mockery from Sutton Coldfield's massed true-blue ranks.

Flying the Labour flag in such a Tory bastion calls for novel campaign and organizational tactics. His first step was to pay a £5 insurance premium to cover himself against the near certainty of losing his £150 election deposit.

Having borrowed a motorcycle from the Triumph Meriden Cooperative, and proudly declaring himself to be the only motor-cycling Labour candidate in the country, Mr Gibbons has a BBC TV crew went in search of a voter. If the idea had not been eventually scrapped, they would probably still be continuing the search.

Despite the hopelessness of his cause, the personal knocks and vilification, Mr Gibbons confesses to having enjoyed the contest and looks forward to a future parliamentary battle. Will it be in Sutton Coldfield again? "Nobody is ever asked to run here twice."

Richard Evans

Richard Ford

General election results	
Date	Turnout %
November 14, 1935	71.2
July 5, 1945	72.7
February 23, 1950	84.0
October 25, 1951	82.5
May 26, 1955	78.7
October 8, 1959	78.8
October 15, 1964	77.1
March 31, 1966	76.8
June 18, 1970	72.0
February 28, 1974	78.7
October 10, 1974	72.8
May 3, 1979	76.0

The trickiest question was faced by Mr Pym, who was asked for his view of the landslide which Mrs Thatcher has said she wants, but about which he had previously expressed doubts. Replying, he took the lead of the Prime Minister in *The Times* yesterday: "It is up to the British people tomorrow and we will settle for whatever, in their wisdom, they give us."

'Abrasive' Toryism attacked by Steel

By Barbara Day

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, "At the moment it looks as though there is going to be a Conservative victory. All the polls indicate that. Therefore the question is how substantial is the victory going to be, and what controlling interest is the Alliance going to be able to have on the Government."

"I think a lot of Conservative voters who believe in the old one-nation style of Conservatism are going to draw back from giving an endorsement to the new, abrasive and harsh Toryism that we see today and I think they will switch to the Alliance."

"I think that it would be a disaster if we had a major landslide for the Conservative Party because I think that the divisions in our society will increase over the next four or five years and that cannot be healthy for the country." (ITN, News at One)

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, "I believe Labour can win. I believe we are going to fight very hard tomorrow. I have seen the marginal constituencies where we are fighting and that is where the thing is going to be decided and I believe that the individual evidence that we have justifies this. I think the SDP or the Alliance, or whatever they call themselves, are going to be wiped out as an effective force

BROADCASTING

When the votes come in Back page

in the next Parliament and the only way, therefore, the Thatcher Government can be defeated is through the Labour Party." (ITN, News at One)

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, "The Conservative Party consists of people who come from all walks of life and the policy is for people in all walks of life. The really divisive policies are those of the Labour Party, who start to talk about class war, class struggle, all the old Marxist language. That is outdated. It is not suitable for Britain. I thought in the first Parliament which I came into in Harold Macmillan's time we had got rid of all that stuff. It is ridiculous. It belongs to a different age. They brought it back and it is they who deliberately set out to be divisive. We are British and I do not divide between one group and another."

"I have not used power autocratically in any way, nor should I use it autocratically. I am a devout believer in democracy and the ballot box and this is the only authority that any government has - the authority given to it by the people." (ITN News at One)

Early pointers to result

Within seconds of the polling booths closing at 10pm tonight, both BBC and ITN will flash an early prediction of the general election result to millions of television viewers.

Their forecasts will be based on thousands of interviews carried out during the day with voters as they leave the polls in specially chosen constituencies.

ITN is interviewing 10,000 people spread over the 110 most marginal seats in addition to further estimated 4,000 voters in 40 more seats, who form a typical cross-section of the population. The same formula employed in

1974 and 1979 provided ITN with a remarkably accurate prediction of the outcome.

The BBC is interviewing 4,500 electors in more than 300 constituencies. "I hope that the 1983 BBC survey will be at least as accurate as the first one I did for the 1979 election. Our prediction then was spot on," Professor Ivar Croxall, of the department of government at Essex University said yesterday.

More than 40 countries will have British television coverage sent by satellite from British Telecom's earth stations at Goughilly, near Land's end and Madley, Hereford.

TV and radio broadcasts

TODAY 10.00am-11.00am Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 11.00am-12.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 12.00pm-1.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 1.00pm-2.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 2.00pm-3.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 3.00pm-4.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 4.00pm-5.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 5.00pm-6.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 6.00pm-7.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 7.00pm-8.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 8.00pm-9.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 9.00pm-10.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 10.00pm-11.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 11.00pm-12.00am Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys.

Tomorrow 10.00am-11.00am Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 11.00am-12.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 12.00pm-1.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 1.00pm-2.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 2.00pm-3.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 3.00pm-4.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 4.00pm-5.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 5.00pm-6.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 6.00pm-7.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 7.00pm-8.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 8.00pm-9.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 9.00pm-10.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 10.00pm-11.00pm Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys. 11.00pm-12.00am Election 83, presented by David Goodhart, Peter Snow, and John Humphrys.

HOW GREAT WILL BRITAIN BE TOMORROW?



Some people think that the country has had its day. They're wrong. The new Britain is busy helping the world to benefit from the new technologies.

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- 1947 IAL formed as International Aeradio Limited by 12 airlines to provide aviation navigation and communications services.
- 1957a Survey telecommunications projects in East Africa, Caribbean, Pakistan and Sudan. Involvement subsidiary and associate companies formed. First training schools and consultancy projects undertaken.
- 1960s First projects in North Sea and satellite telecommunications. Public telephone companies in United Arab Emirates inaugurated. Computer systems group established.
- 1970s Development of electronics manufacturing capability. Products such as IAL Medusa data network management and IAL Stratus voice communications switching systems launched. Acquisition of CPM, Britain's largest independent computer maintenance company.
- 1980s Major expansion in USA. Acquisition of Ocean Data Systems Inc., and Global Weather Dynamics Inc. enhances environmental services capability. Take-over of Kalbar Corporation provides vehicle for computer maintenance involvement in US market. Contribution to provision of technical services at UK regional airports increases substantially.
- 1983 April 8th, IAL joins the giant STC group.

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African unity at stake

Polisario Front agrees pullout to prevent OAU summit collapse

Addis Ababa (Reuters, AFP, AP) - The Polisario Front yesterday agreed to pull out of the nineteenth summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), clearing the way for an end to the crisis which has threatened the organization's existence.

Mr Ibrahim Hakim, Foreign Minister of the Polisario Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), said his movement had agreed to the concession for the sake of African unity.

States opposed to Polisario participation in the summit had threatened to boycott the meeting in protest at its presence.

Mr Hakim made his announcement as heads of state began arriving for the summit, which at one stage looked as if it might turn into a gathering of only those states which back the SADR.

Delegates said it was almost certain the concession would make it possible for the 51-member organization to raise a quorum of 34 member states.

The OAU last held a proper summit in Nairobi two years ago. All subsequent attempts to hold one have been abandoned without a quorum because of an even split between the radical and moderate camps.

Mr Hakim insisted, however, that the SADR still remained a full OAU member and that the decision to abstain, taken after a meeting a few hours earlier with the outgoing OAU chairman, President Moi of Kenya, was voluntary and "in conformity with our wish to safeguard African unity".

Mr Hakim also said the SADR was concerned "to reinforce African unity threatened by Moroccan expansionism, supported by US imperialism".

He said the decision to abstain was only binding on the nineteenth summit. The question of where and when the twentieth is to be held is on the agenda for this summit.

Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for control of the western Sahara since the former Spanish colonial admin-

istration pulled out in 1976.

The Polisario quarrel has paralysed the OAU since February, 1982, when Mr Edem Kodjo of Togo the OAU secretary-general, decided at a meeting of foreign ministers in Addis Ababa to admit Polisario as the OAU's fifty-first member. They joined under the name of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic.

Morocco led a boycott of 19 nations at that meeting, preventing a quorum of 34 members. Since then the OAU has not been able to hold ministerial or summit meetings for lack of the two-thirds quorum.

Since African leaders gathered here over the weekend there has been an intensive round of bilateral and committee discussions to try to defuse the dispute.

On Tuesday evening an informal plenary session was called, and it served as a test of Moroccan support. Mr Peter Onn, the assistant secretary-general, said that 19 nations boycotted the two-hour session.

Gaddafi roadshow dazzles Addis

Addis Ababa (NYT) - Under the walls of Africa Hall, where the organization of African Unity remained locked in possibly terminal dispute, there is a modest side-show for those not privy to the deliberations within.

It is the travelling road show that surrounds Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, making him a flamboyant diversion from more staid, African styles.

He arrived here unexpectedly on Sunday, with an entourage of 150 in three aircraft. That perplexed even President Omar Bongo of Gabon who had flown in on board a personalized DCB aircraft.

The Libyan leader is reported

to be staying not with other heads of state in a hotel, but in a private villa whence he departs for his public appearances.

A maroon, stretched Mercedes packed with bodyguards will screech to a halt outside the blue-carpeted steps of Africa Hall, where the organization has been deadlocked by a decision that threatens its survival over the Polisario guerrillas who Colonel Gaddafi, among others, supports.

The Cameramen focus their lenses on the Mercedes, but Colonel Gaddafi steps out of a more modest BMW car, a play presumably devised to foil assassins at the hall. The Libyan team behave as if they own the place. After a meeting on Tuesday, for instance, heads of

African States and governments queued patiently for their cars, but not Colonel Gaddafi. Sweeping past Africa's elder statesmen, he descended the steps, clambered into his BMW and sped off. Sometimes, his aides will depart clinging to the back of sand-coloured Range Rovers.

It does not go down too well with Ethiopian security men, who prevented some of Colonel Gaddafi's bodyguards from entering their conference hall. They apparently had orders to stop all bodyguards and that led to a fracas when Congolese bodyguards tried to burst through the Ethiopians and accompany their own leader, President Denis Sassou-Nguessu.

German churchmen fear peace group takeover

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The German Evangelical Church yesterday began a five-day convention in Hanover that has already provoked sharp political controversy because of accusations that it will be dominated by the peace movement, whose members are attending in large numbers.

The two-yearly predominantly lay gathering has attracted some 112,000 participants, of whom two thirds are under 25, a clear indication of the important role the church is now playing in young people's views on the peace question. Many will be urging the influential church to take a decisive stand against the deployment of new Nato missiles in West Germany.

In an evident attempt to stop the adoption of a decision politically embarrassing to his Government, Chancellor Helmut Kohl, yesterday reaffirmed in a special article

for the Evangelical Church newspaper the importance of the Nato two-track decision as a means of reaching a balanced reduction of arms in Europe.

Herr Wolfgang Rumpff, a Free Democratic MP also called on Christians of all denominations not to dissipate their energies in demonstrations against what he called the peace policies of the Government.

Before the opening there was fierce dispute over the intention by some 100 peace groups to wear purple scarves, a symbol of the peace movement, bearing the slogan "Now is the time for an unequivocal 'no' to all weapons of mass destruction" at all meetings including the closing church services. Two bishops said they would not attend in protest, saying that the convention held under the motto of "Return to Life" had been turned into a demonstration.

Elton John takes home old China

From David Bonavia, Peking

Elton John, the singer, has bought \$50,000 worth of antiques during the tour here by Watford Football Club, of which he is chairman.

When Mr John expressed an interest in antiques, he was taken to an export warehouse near Peking and bought many items, including large lions carved in stone. "He just went in and said: 'I'll have this, that, and that,' a club source said.

Last night, Watford trounced the Chinese national team 5-0, after winning previous matches in Shanghai and Peking.

Mr John gave an impromptu concert last night at the luxury hotel where the club were staying in the Western Hills, near Peking.



Mrs Gandhi 'a soul in agony'

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, left, with Mrs Milka Planinc, President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, after the Indian leader's arrival in Belgrade yesterday for a 48-hour official visit to Yugoslavia.

Mrs Gandhi, who is on the first leg of a European tour that will take her to Finland, Denmark, Norway and Aus-

tralia, is the current President of the non-aligned movement. She later addressed the sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) which opened in Belgrade on Monday, AFP and AP report.

In her speech she made a passionate plea for peace, calling for "non-violence" in today's world dominated by

"new methods and forms of colonialism."

"I am a soul in agony," she told delegates. "As one who feels passionately about freedom, I cannot but be alarmed at the continuing pushing domination" of Third World countries by powers she did not identify.

Unctad optimism, page 21

Freed relief team gets near Sudan

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Khartoum (Reuters) - A team of foreign relief workers recently freed after being kidnapped by guerrillas in Ethiopia have crossed a flood-swollen river on their journey back to freedom and are close to Sudan, reports said here yesterday.

A spokesman for the Tigre People's Liberation Front told reporters that the workers had reached a point some 30 miles east of Kassala in eastern Sudan after crossing the Upper Gash river in Eritrea.

"We are happy their suffering, due to circumstances beyond our control, has now ended," Gerbu Towelle, the spokesman said.

The team of four Britons, two Irish, two Italians and one American were abducted on April 21 and freed last week.

Mr Towelle said they were escorted on their journey by 10 guerrillas of the IPFL which seeks Tigre's independence from Ethiopia. It was now up to the Sudanese authorities to allow the group into Sudan, he added.

"We have kept our word to free the workers, they are all in good shape despite bad weather conditions."

British Embassy officials said arrangements were being made to bring the group from Kassala to Khartoum by lorry or aircraft and then fly them to London.

ANC guerrilla in last-minute appeal for stay of execution

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African Government, unmoved by a flood of eleven-hour appeals for clemency from all over the world, yesterday said that the hanging of three African National Congress guerrillas would take place as planned at dawn today.

However, lawyers representing Mr Marcus Moteng, one of the condemned men, made a final attempt late yesterday to obtain a stay of execution, with an application to the Pretoria Supreme Court. If the application succeeded it would probably mean a reprieve for the other two.

The three men had earlier refused to make such an application, saying they had prepared themselves for death.

But Mr Moteng changed his mind after being persuaded by relatives who visited him on "death row" yesterday morning.

The EEC's demarche was delivered on Tuesday to Mr Hans Van Dalsen, the Director General of Foreign Affairs, by Herr Carl Lahusen, the West German Ambassador to South Africa.

West Germany at present holds the EEC presidency. Leaders of the British Labour and Alliance parties sent messages of their own to Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, calling for clemency.

A spokesman for the South African Mission at the United Nations was quoted as branding the Security Council resolution a gross interference in South Africa's affairs, which would be treated with the contempt it deserved.

More than 50 US senators and congressmen, including three Democratic presidential candidates, Mr Walter Mondale, Mr Gary Hart and Mr Alan Cranston, also sent cables to Mr Botha.

In another move, the Seychelles Government offered on Tuesday to set free four condemned mercenaries and two others serving long-term prison sentences, among them some Britons, if the three ANC members were reprieved.

Reports in the South African press claimed that the last-minute appeals, which included a joint demarche by the 10 member-states of the EEC and a resolution passed unanimously by the United Nations Security Council late of Tuesday, were discussed yesterday by the Executive Council, the Cabinet sitting with the State President as chairman.

However, a spokesman for the council told The Times: "Representations of this nature and similar content have already been considered by the executive council, and a final decision has been taken."

The spokesman would neither confirm nor deny that there had been any further discussion of the matter at an Executive Council meeting yesterday.

On Monday, Mr Marais Viljoen, the State President, announced that Mr Simon Mogerane, Mr Jerry Mosololi and Mr Motaung, all blacks in their twenties, would hang today for their part in armed attacks on three police stations, in which four black policemen were killed and several civilians injured.

At the same time, he commuted to terms of life imprisonment the death sentences passed on Mr Anthony Tsotsobe, Mr Johannes Shabangu and Mr David Moise, who were involved in acts of sabotage as well as attacks on a police station and the home of a black constable, but did not cause any deaths.

● LONDON: British has urgently instructed its embassy in Cape Town to try to persuade the South African authorities to reprieve the men, Henry Stanhope writes.

A Foreign Office statement said in part: "We have told the South African Charge d'Affaires of the foreign Secretary's personal hope that even at this late stage the matter could be further considered."

Officers of the multinational force in Beirut, which arrived to guard the approach roads to Galerie Seman immediately after the bomb went off, believe that the guerrillas who are ambushing the Israelis every day are mainly Lebanese, and most of them Shia Muslims.

Israeli troops questioned Lebanese workers who are repairing neighbouring buildings (the area was badly damaged during the siege of West Beirut last summer), and some hours later an American-built M60 tank and an armoured personnel carrier, both crewed by Israeli soldiers carrying rifles and machineguns, drove up and down the old Sidon road.

reversing his jeep and driving back to the scene of the ambush where five civilian cars were burning in the street beside the crippled vehicle.

In dark glasses and with an automatic rifle over his shoulder, he spent up to two hours talking to his fellow

The first test-tube triplets born

Adelaide (Reuters) - An Australian woman gave birth to the world's first test-tube triplets yesterday, two girls and a boy, delivered a month premature by Caesarian section. A spokesman for Adelaide's Flinders medical centre said mother and babies were in good health and progressing well. The mother was not identified over the weight of the triplets given.

The test-tube baby technique is used mainly on women who cannot conceive normally due to blocked fallopian tubes, her eggs are surgically removed, fertilized in a test tube by the husband's sperm, and replaced in the woman.

Mercy mission man due back

Dr Andrew Doig, the Church of Scotland emissary sent to Malawi to plead for mercy for Mr Oton Chirwa, the country's former Justice Minister, and his wife, is expected back in Britain today.

The Chirwas, sentenced to death for treason last month, were due to hang today, but it is understood they are now appealing for clemency.

Volga disaster toll put at 240

Moscow (AP) - The death toll from Sunday's Volga river cruise ship disaster was at least 240, unofficial Soviet sources reported. Four railway carriages had plunged from the bridge hit by the ship.

No official death toll has yet been issued but the sources said they got their information from friends from Ulyanovsk who are visiting Moscow.

Andropov doubt

Bonn (Reuters) - The West German Government said yesterday it had no evidence that Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, was seriously ill, and that he planned to visit Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Moscow on July 4 would go ahead.

Hawke in Paris

Paris (AP) - Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, arrived in Paris yesterday for a round of talks with French leaders that is expected to focus on Australia's opposition to France's nuclear weapons testing in the South Pacific.

Claim denied

Washington - The Reagan Administration was branded as "patently false" the contention of an anti-Zionist committee in Moscow that the majority of Jews who desired to emigrate from the Soviet Union had already left.

Pilots eject

The Hague (Reuters) - A USAF Phantom reconnaissance aircraft based in England crashed at Oudeschep, northeast of Groningen, yesterday but the two pilots ejected safely, the Dutch Defence Ministry said.

Flagged down

Harare (Reuters) - An African businessman running a curio shop in Bulawayo has been arrested for the possession of flags and army insignia of the former Rhodesia. Their sale on display was banned in 1981.

Golfer's suit

New York (AP) - Severiano Ballesteros, the Spanish golfer, has filed a suit for unspecified damages against the R J Reynolds Tobacco Co., charging it used his picture in advertisements without permission or payment.

Out of tune

Frankfurt (AP) - An embarrassed USAF band apologized to the Yugoslav national football team after playing the pre-war national anthem, holding up play in the match against West Germany for 30 minutes while a search was made for the proper music.

Seven killed

Johannesburg (AP) - Seven people leaving a wedding died when their twin-engine private aircraft crashed after take-off from Cape Town.

Exiles return

Harare (Reuters) - Botswana has sent back about 70 Zimbabwean exiles who illegally fled across the border from the troubled province of Matabeleland.

Own goal

Stockholm (AP) - A Swedish navy minelayer firing an anti-aircraft gun scored a direct hit on its own barge during an exercise in waters south of here, a naval spokesman said. No one was hurt.

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From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Israel's toll of military casualties in Lebanon rose still further yesterday when a car bomb exploded next to an Israeli convoy on the perimeter of West Beirut, killing two soldiers instantly and gravely wounding a third.

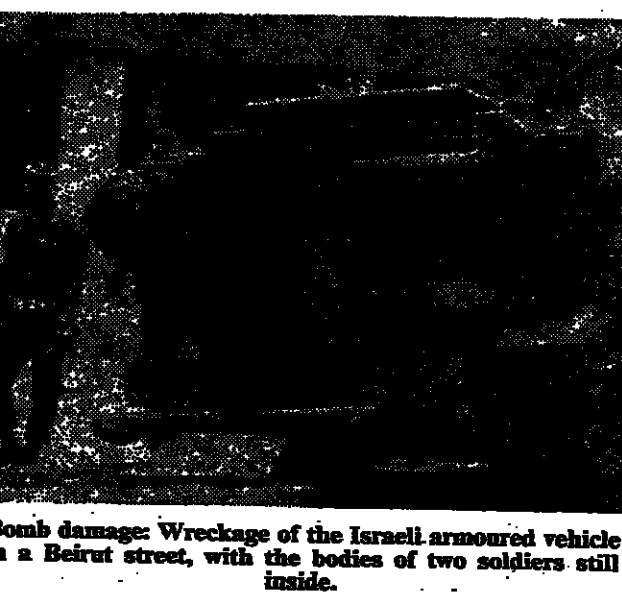
The ambush, which appeared to have been aimed at the Israeli divisional commander in central Lebanon who was believed to be driving at the front of the convoy, brought to 496 the number of Israeli troops killed since the invasion of Lebanon a year ago.

The convoy was using the dangerous supply route around the edge of West Beirut. It is a narrow boulevard that runs along the old Sidon road to Galerie Seman (the crossing point between the east and west of the city), then up towards the Damascus highway, where the Lebanese maintain their forward positions.

As it turned the corner at Galerie Seman, a white Mercedes car exploded at the side of the road and blasted the nearest vehicle, an armoured personnel carrier, across the highway.

Brigadier-General Amnon Lifkin, the Israeli commander of the Beirut region, was seen

Two Israelis die in Beirut car blast



Bomb damage: Wreckage of the Israeli armoured vehicle in a Beirut street, with the bodies of two soldiers still inside.

According to eye-witnesses, the two soldiers on the vehicle were torn in half by the explosion. A Lebanese policeman was also thought to have died.

reversing his jeep and driving back to the scene of the ambush where five civilian cars were burning in the street beside the crippled vehicle.

In dark glasses and with an automatic rifle over his shoulder, he spent up to two hours talking to his fellow

Uproar over spy chief's reported attack on Begin

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The chorus of recrimination inside Israel marking the first anniversary of the invasion of Lebanon has reached a new pitch with a reported attack on the military judgment of Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, by the former head of Mossad, the Israeli secret service.

Reserve General Yitzhak Hafi, who was Israel's spy master until he retired last August, allegedly told a closed meeting of military officers that Mr Begin - to whom he was personally accountable - lacked "the capability and experience to grasp military subjects".

His remarks were leaked to the military correspondent of Israel Radio, who also reported that the general had told the officers that there was an urgent

need to appoint a special adviser who could help the Prime Minister to evaluate intelligence material.

After the uproar caused by reports of the politically sensitive attack, General Hafi expressed regret to Mr Begin, and claimed that his remarks had been distorted. The radio correspondent stood by his account, explaining that the general's accusation had been made while he was comparing Mr Begin to Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the former Labour Prime Minister.

The incident was the culmination of days of unseemly wrangling between Israeli ministers and between senior officers and politicians over the way in which the war in Lebanon was handled. Mr Begin is believed to have been

angered by the acrimonious exchanges between members of his Cabinet.

There is no doubt that the soul searching will continue. Next Monday the Knesset is due to debate two opposition motions calling for a full judicial inquiry into the Government's conduct of the war.

Yesterday, by a majority of 55 to 47 with two abstentions the Government comfortably defeated a call by the main Labour opposition for a unilateral withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanon. The

victory was despite the fact that two Likud members, Mr Yitzhak Mordechai and Mr Dror Zeigerman both voted in favour of the pull-out.

Mr Berman, the former Energy Minister who resigned

his Cabinet post in protest against the handling of the war, has figured prominently in the bitter internal debate on whether the ministers were properly informed about events in Lebanon by Mr Ariel Sharon, Defence Minister at the time.

A number of senior officers, including Major General Amir Dror, commander of the Northern Command, have alleged in anniversary interviews that Israel's military performance would have been improved had the goals of the war been explained more clearly.

It has also been disclosed in the past few days that the late Moshe Dayan told a meeting of his disbanded Tel Aviv Party in 1981: "The Israeli public does not want war in Lebanon. Such a war would damage national unity."

Officers of the multinational force in Beirut, which arrived to guard the approach roads to Galerie Seman immediately after the bomb went off, believe that the guerrillas who are ambushing the Israelis every day are mainly Lebanese, and most of them Shia Muslims.

Israeli troops questioned Lebanese workers who are repairing neighbouring buildings (the area was badly damaged during the siege of West Beirut last summer), and some hours later an American-built M60 tank and an armoured personnel carrier, both crewed by Israeli soldiers carrying rifles and machineguns, drove up and down the old Sidon road.

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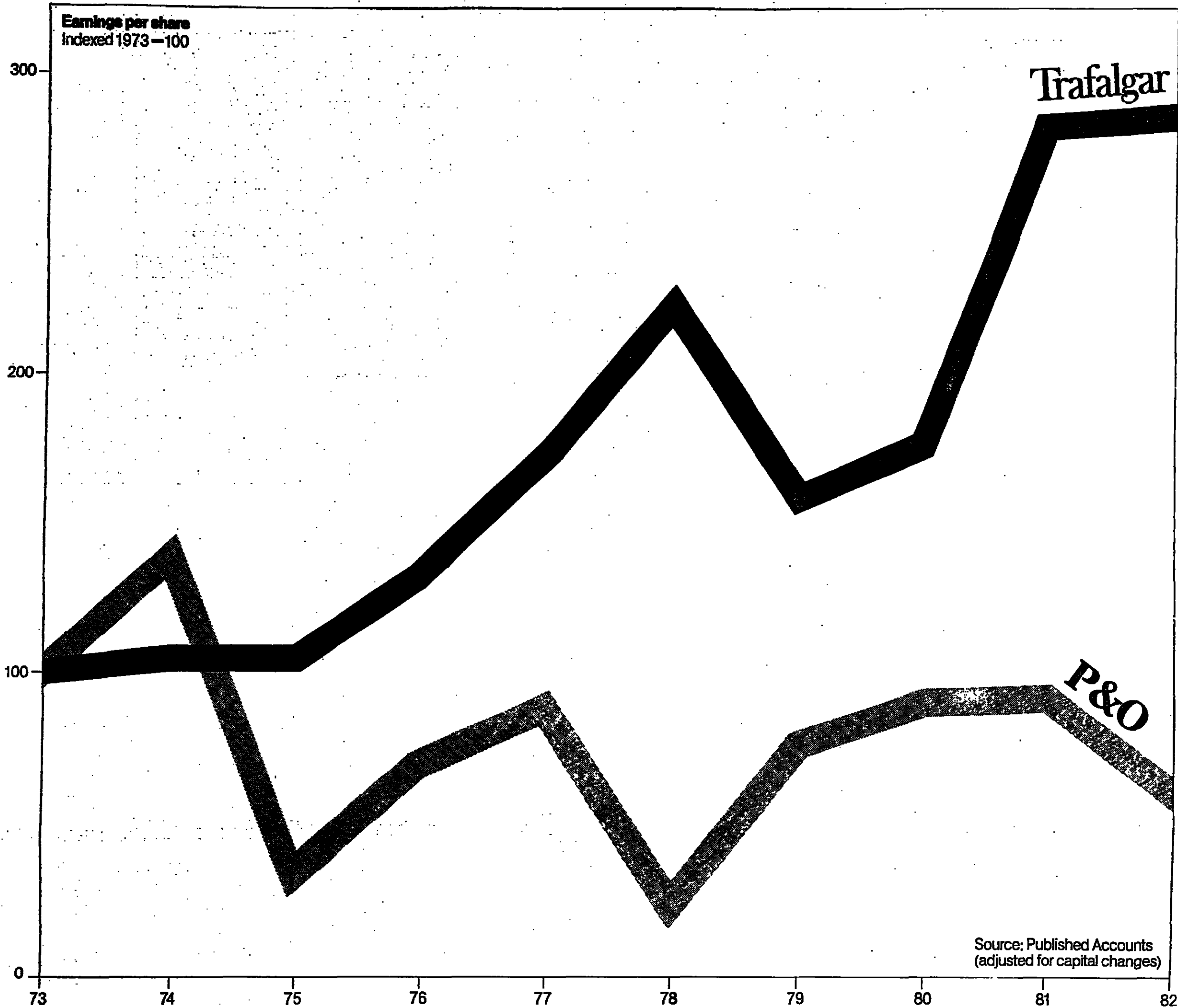
Mr Berman, the former Energy Minister who resigned

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2. What profit is P&O forecasting for 1983? Trafalgar has already predicted a record year.
3. Why has P&O's average return on

shareholders' funds been under 9% for the last ten years when Trafalgar's has been over 30%?

4. Why has P&O found it necessary to dip into its reserves to pay dividends for three years out of the last ten, when Trafalgar has always paid dividends out of current profits?

5. Why should I continue to be a shareholder in a company whose management has consistently produced nothing but decline and disappointment - when I have the opportunity to join up with another

British company whose management has produced such impressive growth in the same fields?

6. Finally, are P&O's emotive efforts to have Trafalgar's bid referred to the Monopolies Commission really in my best interests? Should I not have the right to decide on the bid's merits myself?

If this line of questioning produces nothing more concrete than a few optimistic noises about the future, we would suggest that you look again at the two lines in the graph and draw your own conclusions.

IF YOU CARE ABOUT P&O, ACCEPT THE TRAFALGAR OFFER.

Honecker snubs departing envoy

**From Michael Binyon
Bonn**

That change will come eventually, with the growth in numbers of Indian women who are wage-earners in their own right. But until that happens there are immense pressures on a father to try to buy an appropriate bridegroom for his daughter early, so that he should not be burdened with her upkeep as age makes her less acceptable as a wife.

Pit toll rises to 10

A spokesman the Turkish Wildlife Society identified one of the British scientists as Mr Simon Albrecht, of Cambridge.

They were on a two-week holiday in Thrace to watch birds in the area, a wetland region internationally famous for its rare birds. The area is an important breeding area for dozens of migrating birds.

fire had been smouldering in the mine for several days, and firemen had been trying to extinguish it when the explosion occurred. Three engineers investigating the fire were among

Early yesterday rescue teams managed to evacuate the survivors
Belgrade Radio said a

heads of the East German leaders. Commentators here have speculated that Her Honecker may have made his dislike plain to Mr Yur Andropov, the Soviet leader when he paid a state visit to Moscow recently.

Mr Andropov's departure is not thought to signal any fundamental change in Soviet policy towards Germany, East or West, and is more likely to be connected with Mr Andropov's steady change of long-serving party cadres.

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow intellectuals say they are worried that the forthcoming plenum of the Soviet Central Committee will lead to a further "ideological turn of the screw" restricting Soviet intellectual and artistic life.

The Central Committee's decision was due to meet on Tuesday, for the first time since November, when Mr Yuri Andropov became party leader. Ideology is one of Mr Andropov's main concerns, and is expected to dominate the plenum. Mr Andropov had long experience of suppressing and countering ideological unorthodoxy during his 15 years as head of the KGB (secret police), and was party secretary with responsibility for ideological questions from April 1982 until his election as leader.

One academic said: "I have never heard of a plenum on ideology which led to a liberalization of intellectual life. It is always the other way round".

There have been a series of warnings in *Pravda* and other Soviet news papers against ideological "deviations", and repeated calls for communist vigilance in the arts.

Sources said that having acquired power, Mr Andropov wished to consolidate it by imposing strict central control. He may bring some of the key figures responsible for internal

Both General Vitaly Fedorchuk, the Interior Minister, and General Viktor Chebrikov, head of the KGB, are personally associated with Mr Andropov. But General Fedorchuk is not a member of the Central Committee, although he is a deputy to the less important Supreme Soviet.

● **Arts crackdown:** Soviet theatre, book, and art critics were ordered by *Pravda* yesterday to crack down on signs of western influence in new creative works and so more to ensure orthodox communist values were upheld. Reuters

A leading article in the party organ accused critics of taking a sloppy attitude towards their work. It said most of them turned out only compliments of the productions they were reviewing and not analyse their faults.

This was part of the reason for the growth of a "nihilistic attitude towards important traditions" in the arts, it said. Works of art could criticize some shortcomings in society only from a firm communist standpoint.

**From Harry Debelius
Madrid**

Police yesterday were investigating the shooting of two Jordanians, who were believed to be students in Barcelona, and said that political motives could not be ruled out.

An unknown assailant believed to be from an Arab country, shot and seriously wounded the two Jordanians as they were walking down a street in the centre of Barcelona on Tuesday evening. He escaped into the crowds of strollers.

Mr Abraham Ahmad Danun, aged 36, and Mr Idrabim Alkaalif, aged 27, were both taken to the intensive care unit of a Barcelona hospital, under treatment for head wounds.

There was no immediate indication of what organization or organizations might be responsible, if the theory of political motivation were to prove correct.

Last month Mr Kamal Hasan Ali, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, cancelled a visit to Spain after the Spanish authorities warned him of a suspected Palestinian plot to assassinate him, according to reliable sources in Madrid.

The Egyptian minister was originally expected to arrive on May 2 for a four-day stay, designed to prepare the ground for a visit by Mr Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian President, to Madrid in the autumn. The official reason given for the

The official reason given for the last-minute cancellation of Mr. Hasan Ali's trip was that he wanted to devote more attention to the Middle East tour of Mr. George Shultz, the US Secretary of State.

Reliable sources confirmed that the Spanish Interior Ministry became aware of a plan by activists of the extremist Abu Nidal group to kill Mr Hasan Ali.

● **SAN SEBASTIAN:** A Basque group called the Anticapitalistic Autonomous Commandos claimed responsibility yesterday for the killing of Francisco Machio, aged 31, the seveneenth victim of political terrorism in Spain this year, AP reports.

Mr Kaare Willoch: kept key ministries.

Norwegian coalition takes office

Oslo (AP, Reuter) — Norway's first majority Government since 1971 was officially installed yesterday at a state

Mr Kaare Willoch, the Prime Minister, will head a non-socialist three-party coalition which has 11 ministers from his own Conservative Party, four from the Christian Democratic Party and three from the Agrarian Centre Party.

It replaces Mr Willoch's all-Conservative minority Cabinet which came to power after general elections in 1981, and was supported by two other parties on a vote-by-vote basis. The new Government has a 79.76 majority in the 155 seats

Norwegian newspapers agreed that Mr Willoch came off best in the coalition talks and

also in the composition of the Cabinet.

The new Government, Conservative unless stated, is: Prime Minister: Kaare Willoch; Foreign Affairs: Sverre Stray; Finance: Rolf Presthus; Justice: Mona Røedde; Oil and Energy: Kaare Halvord

Bratz: Church and Education: Kjell
Magne Bondvik (Christian); Cultural
Affairs: Lars Røer Langseth; Communi-
cations: Johan Jakobsen (Centre);
Consumer Affairs: Astrid Gjersten;
Agriculture: Finn Isaksen (Centre);
Fisheries: Thor Liestøl; Environment:
Rakel Surlien (Centre); Social Affairs:
Arne Høide; Defence: Anders Sjåstad;
Commerce and Shipping: Asbjørn
Haugseth (Christian); Municipalities
and Works: Arne Rattedal; Develop-
ment Aid: Bekim Smirnov (Christian).

Hot dogs take over from sin at drive-in cinemas

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The drive-in cinema which, like drive-in banks, restaurants and churches, is an element of the remarkable relationship between Americans and their cars, is 50 years old. It has, apart from anything else, played a significant part in the modern history of American courtship.

Drive-ins had their origins in New Jersey in 1933, but really boomed in the 1950s when suburbs mushroomed, and cars were big and vulgar and petrol was cheap. The largest cinemas had room for more than 2,000 cars.

Their numbers have declined to about 3,000, but they remain popular with many people as places where they can give their families an inexpensive night out. They can take their own supper if they do not want to buy hot dogs and the children can sleep in the back seat.

At one time preachers and newspaper editors went regularly into their respective pulpits to denounce drive-ins as places of sin. But today the drive-in is so common that it is

French smash vice ring

Metz (AFP) — French police announced they have smashed an international prostitution ring which sent more than 100 young women to brothels in half a dozen European countries and Latin America.

After nine months of inquiries, helped by Interpol, they arrested 10 men, and charged each with rape, living off immoral earnings and extortion.

women were forcibly recruited by the gang which sent many to "Eros centres" in West Germany, as well as to brothels in Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West

The alleged gang leaders, Tomaso Mastrorillo, aged 32, and Sylvio Pietropaolini, aged 35, have also been accused of drugs trafficking and travellers

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20" GEC C265 Full RUC	£238.50
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22" PHILIPS 1600A Full RUC	£242.50
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Two world beaters from Nissan.

Only a company as forward-looking as Nissan could launch *two* technically advanced new models on the same day.

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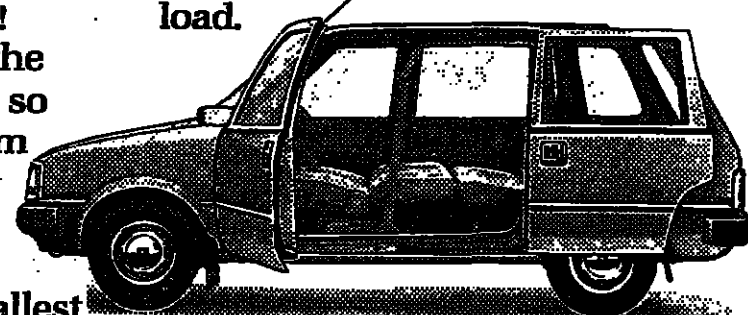
It's perfect for family use, perfect for leisure and ideal for business.

The Prairie has a unique pillarless design and sliding rear doors to give unobstructed access to the interior – perfect for loading with people or goods. And inside there's all the room in the world. Enough, in fact, for an upright piano!

And loading through the rear door has never been so easy. The tailgate lifts from below bumper level to reveal a floor a mere 17 inches above ground level – lower than the smallest estate car on the market.

The Prairie's spacious interior is luxuriously equipped, Datsun style. Both front and rear seats recline (and can be folded down) to make a comfortable double bed – perfect for holiday touring.

Under the bonnet a powerful 1.5 litre engine is linked to a five speed gearbox – gearing that gives punchy acceleration, whatever the load.



Fully independent suspension complements responsive rack and pinion steering. So the Prairie corners like a car even when it's loaded like an estate.

The new Prairie; there's no car quite like it. The only way you can appreciate its versatility is by visiting your Datsun dealer.

He'll show you a car that's absolutely unique!



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Government Fuel Consumption Tests – mpg (litres/100kms.). Micra GL Constant 56 mph (90km/h) 67.3 (4.2). Town Driving Cycle 47.9 (5.9) Constant 75 mph (120km/h) 46.3 (6.1). Datsun UK Limited, Datsun House, New Road, Worthing, Sussex. Tel: Worthing (0903) 68581. Datsun price includes car tax, VAT, seat belts, two door mirrors, rear fog lamp etc. (Inland delivery, number plates and road fund licence extra).

US-Nicaragua tension grows

Consular officials accused of spying

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

Nicaragua's six consulates in the United States closed down yesterday and their 21 officials began leaving for home after the Reagan Administration's swift retaliation for the expulsion on Monday of three American diplomats from Nicaragua.

The heads of the consulates in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans and Houston were ordered by the State Department on Tuesday to close their offices and leave the country within 24 hours. The remainder of their staff and dependents have been told to leave by tomorrow.

The State Department said that an important consideration behind its action was "The Nicaraguan Government's use of its consulates for intelligence operations". Officials declined to give any details, and categorically rejected Nicaraguan charges that the expelled Americans had been involved in subversive activities.

Tension between the Administration and the Sandinista Government has reached an unprecedented pitch, but diplomatic relations have not been broken off.

President Reagan has repeatedly accused Managua, which is supported by Cuba and the Soviet Union, of giving aid to left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador. The Administration is giving economic and military aid to the Salvadorean Government.

On Tuesday the House foreign affairs committee approved a Bill to deny the operations in Nicaragua. Instead, the Bill would authorize the Administration to spend \$80m over two years to help friendly Central American nations to halt arms supplies to the Salvadorean guerrillas.

The committee's recommendation, adopted by 20 votes to 14, is, however, unlikely to be passed by the full Congress. It will now go to the Democratic-dominated House of Representatives, where Republicans and some Democrats will seek a compromise. Even if it passed the House, the Bill would stand little chance in the Republican-controlled Senate.

A State Department spokesman said: "We have stated before our basic opposition to any legislation which would constrain the executive's policy tools to deal with the extremely complex situation in Central America."

Many Democrats in Congress



Arrival: Miss Linda Pfeiffer, Miss Emilia Rodriguez and Mr David Noble Greig, the three US diplomats expelled from Nicaragua, at Miami airport.

have alleged that the Administration is assisting Nicaraguan rebels to overthrow the Government, in violation of a congressional ban on the use of intelligence funds for such purposes.

Washington has repeatedly denied this, maintaining that its objective is merely to help stop arms shipments to the Salvadorean guerrillas.

The Senate Intelligence Committee recently approved a Bill which would allow the covert operations to continue until September 1984, but cap power to be used after that date.

MANAGUA: Señor Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan junta, said that the expulsion of the American diplomats showed "irresponsibility" and strengthened the policy of confrontation and the war in Central America.

Their expulsion also "strengthens" the support that (the United States) is giving to the counter-revolutionary groups backed by the Army and Government of Honduras.

Señor Ortega's comments were made after the signing of an agreement on economic and scientific cooperation between Cuba and Nicaragua.

Mr Harold R. Tyler, of New York, a former federal judge, has agreed to accept the role of Administration officials, and to report back to the Administration and Congress.

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Pilot tells of ordeal

Broken radio forced Harrier into emergency landing

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The pilot of the Royal Navy Sea Harrier which landed on a Spanish cargo vessel in the Atlantic said he was forced to do so because of "navigation problems".

Sub-Lieutenant Ian Watson, speaking by radio telephone from the Alraigo, which is expected in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, in the Canaries, this morning said: "There were no mechanical problems with the Harrier, but I realized I had navigational problems when I discovered the main radio was no longer working."

With fuel for only 30 minutes flying and having lost contact with the aircraft carrier, the 25-year-old pilot then used his radar and managed to locate the Spanish 3,800 tonnes dead-weight cargo vessel as it was some 120 nautical miles from the Portuguese coast sailing south-westwards.

Sub-Lieutenant Watson circled the Alraigo and then came down hovering over the cargo of 4ft by 20ft containers all stored in a 20ft area between the ship's bridge and its derrick.

"All the crew looked very concerned and they had the lifeboats out and the fire hoses at the ready", Sub-Lieutenant Watson went on, explaining

that at the Alraigo lurched in high seas his Harrier nearly slipped off the containers ending with its fuselage tipped nose upwards at an angle of 10 degrees.

After getting over the shock the crew had been "very good", Sub-Lieutenant Watson from the Yeovilton base. The Alraigo is expected to dock in Santa Cruz between 10 and 11 am local time today and a spokesman for the Garcia Minaur Line, owners of the ship, said "yesterday" that it was expected the vessel's own derrick would lift the Harrier off.

Señor Inaki Echeverria, head of the line, said a salvage claim on the Harrier had already put into this lawyer's hands.

The Spanish Foreign Ministry said the whole incident would be treated as a humanitarian matter - like the forced landing of any other aircraft.

The Spanish press has generally treated the incident in a light hearted way but has emphasised the remarks of the Alraigo's skipper, Captain Aitor Suso, a 26-year-old Basque, who spoke of his crew's fears when one of the Harrier's bombs slipped from its emplacement

after the aircraft had been lashed down on board.

Diario 16, the Madrid liberal daily, had a front page illustrated column under the headline: "Land Wherever You Can". It showed a cartoon of an RAF pilot looking on nonchalantly from his cockpit as scared Spanish seamen watched a bomb plip along the Alraigo's deck. The newspaper was the only Spanish publication to mention a bomb.

Other papers said the Harrier had been taking part with the Mustangs in Nato manoeuvres. Reporting from Tenerife AD, the Madrid right-wing daily, speculated: "The aircraft might not be handed over today by the Spanish authorities in the Canaries but at the nearest British port - Gibraltar. The Spanish Defence Ministry decided, on being informed by the shipping line, that the Alraigo should keep on its regular course from Bilbao to the Canaries. The captain of the ship told Spanish media he had received a suggestion from the aircraft carrier Mustang that he should make an emergency stop in Oporto, Portugal. The Spanish Navy also has the vessel's take-off and short landing aircraft on its carrier, the Dédalo.

Defence Ministry faces £400,000 bill

By John Lawless

The Ministry of Defence is likely to face a bill for about £400,000 as a result of the Harrier's emergency landing.

It was not clear whether the Harrier was damaged, but it was reported that the aircraft was damaged by a bomb which slipped from its emplacement.

The Harrier was damaged by a bomb which slipped from its emplacement. The Ministry of Defence is likely to face a bill for about £400,000 as a result of the Harrier's emergency landing.

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French police union fights back for its sacked chief

The second largest police union federation, whose secretary-general has been dismissed from the force, is fighting back in the police unions in Paris today, announced yesterday.

It planned to hold a demonstration in protest against the attack on individual union rights.

M Remy Halbwax, secretary-general of the Union Syndicale Categorielle, which represents about a fifth of the uniformed police, said that he was clearly the object of

political attacks. He said that the union was fighting back in the police unions in Paris today, announced yesterday.

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A key eye-witness, Herr Franz-Adolf Gelhaar, a teacher aged 46, remains in a critical condition in hospital.

Herr Gelhaar was hit when he threw himself between children and the gunman, crying: "At least leave the children in peace - shoot at me!" Police believe he may be able to throw some light on what happened.

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US officials, who commended Captain Cameron for his quick thinking, believe an electric toilet flush motor may have been to blame.

Captain Cameron said that after the fire broke out there was no way of knowing whether the aircraft was turning. His vision was never

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The aircraft had lost its compass, and when it came out of the clouds Captain Cameron could not immediately spot Chikilani airport. Air Canada does not fly to that airport.

"I'll admit that right about this point, I was even considering landing on highways," he said.

He urged that the specific issue of Cambodia be set aside. "If we continue to have confrontation on the Kampuchean issue, it will lead to escalation," he said at the end of his three-day Philippines visit, the last in a series which has taken in all the Asian countries over the last year or so.

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Damages for negligent house valuation

London and South of England Building Society v Stone
Before Lord Justice Stephenson,
Lord Justice O'Connor and Sir
Dennis Buckley.
[Judgment delivered May 27]

Where a surveyor, in breach of his duty to value a property mortgaged to a building society, carelessly and negligently put upon the property a false value and the building society advanced money on the false valuation, the true measure of damages for the breach was the difference between the sum the building society advanced on the false valuation and the sum the building society would have advanced on the true valuation which a careful and skilful surveyor would have put upon the property.

But that difference might not always be the true measure of the actual loss which might be increased by expenses and reduced by receipts. It was not incumbent upon the building society to enforce the personal covenant for repayment against the borrower in mitigation of the surveyor's damages.

The Court of Appeal, giving a reserved judgment, allowed by majority (Sir Dennis Buckley dissenting) an appeal by the London and South of England Building Society (formerly known as the South of England Building Society) from an order of Mr Justice Russell on November 13, 1981, who held that judgment against the defendant surveyor, Mr Stone, should be entered for the building society for £12,568 being £9,133 damages plus agreed interest.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

In March 1976 Mr Robinson and his fiancée, Mrs Hurd, were negotiating for the purchase of a semi-detached house, Land End in Corsham, Wiltshire. They approached the building society for a mortgage to finance the purchase.

The society instructed Mr Stone who was a qualified surveyor and valuer to value the property. The society had a printed form which went to Mr Stone for him to complete but in part it had already been filled in by the society and stated that the amount of the advance required was £12,800 repayable over 25 years; and that the agreed purchase price was £14,850.

Mr Stone inspected the property and made his report to the society. He gave the house a clean bill of health. He certified that he had valued the property, and prepared his report in accordance with the provisions of section 25 of the Building Societies Act 1962. He recommended the property as a suitable security for the advance and term requested.

But due to the society's in-house rules they only advanced £11,800. By a legal charge dated September 23, 1976, the borrowers charged the house to the society.

The borrowers covenanted, *inter alia*, to pay monthly instalments of specified sums, until the principle sum and any further advances and all other moneys payable by the borrowers were paid to keep any buildings on the property in good and tenable repair to the satisfaction of the society, and to repay with usual interest all money

paid by the society in completing, repairing, amending, altering, improving or insuring the property or in making any payments for outgoings in relation thereto or for the protection or improvement.

The borrowers moved into their new home but soon cracks appeared and the doors ceased to fit, the sure tell-tales that the property was subject to subsidence. The borrowers became alarmed, and called in consulting engineers who reported in September 1977 that the house was built on the site of an old quarry in the hillside which had been indifferently filled, that not only was the whole hillside gradually moving downward, but the fill in the quarry was sliding downhill lubricated by water and taking the foundations of the house with it. They recommended underpinning.

The borrowers turned to the society for help. The repairs cost £29,000. In June 1979 the society decided not to ask the borrowers to make up any deficiency as a gesture of goodwill on the part of the society for what had been a most difficult and frightening experience for the borrowers but to pursue their remedy against Mr Stone.

Mr Stone had been for the building and South of England Building Society (formerly known as the South of England Building Society) from an order of Mr Justice Russell on November 13, 1981, who held that judgment against the defendant surveyor, Mr Stone, should be entered for the building society for £12,568 being £9,133 damages plus agreed interest.

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(3) A plaintiff need not act so as to injure innocent persons: see *James Finlay & Co Ltd v Kwik Hoo Tong Handel Maatschappij* ([1929] 1 KB 400) and *the Banco de Portugal* case.

(4) A plaintiff need not prejudice its commercial reputation: see *Banco de Portugal*.

In the instant case the borrowers were liable to provide additional payments, the society fair morally responsible for the loss of the borrowers' home and that enforcement of the covenant to pay would injure their public relations. Accordingly, Mr Stone had not proved that the society's refusal to enforce the covenant was unreasonable.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that applying the reasoning in *Baier v Gapp & Co Ltd* ([1939] 2 KB 271) to the facts of the present case the actual loss to the building society was £29,000.

The judge held that it was unreasonable to spend so much money on repairing the house. It was not suggested that the house could have been repaired for less than £11,800.

What then was suggested that the society should have done? The judge did not say himself. The question, said as a result did not answer it.

Something had to be done for the evidence was that the house was about to fall down. The borrowers could not afford to put the house into repair.

Should the society have called in the loan for breach of covenant and repossessed the property? That would have been a pointless exercise as the house was worthless and indeed a liability for it either had to be repaired or pulled down and the neighbouring premises shored up.

The truth was that however one looked at the case the society had lost the whole of their advance at the very least. That loss had been caused by the negligence of Mr Stone. There was no justification for the suggestion that the society were under any duty to Mr Stone to mitigate that loss by trying to extract money from the borrowers.

The appeal ought to be allowed and judgment entered for the

building society in the full sum of £11,800.

SIR DENNIS BUCKLEY, dissenting, said that the obligations of the borrowers under their personal covenants remained intact, unaffected by Mr Stone's negligence. Indeed, they were duly performed down to the time when the loan was paid off.

What impact, if any, did the continued subsidence of the borrowers' obligations under their covenants have on the measure of the society's loss?

If the borrowers had been so amply endowed with wealth that there was no real likelihood of their being unable to fulfil their covenants fully and punctually or, if they failed to do so, no real likelihood of the society being unable to recover in full any claim for damages for breach of covenant, the society could not have successfully asserted that they had suffered any financial loss in consequence of Mr Stone's negligence, or, since there could be no absolute certainty about the future solvency of even a very wealthy covenantor, the court might take the view that the society should be allowed some moderate discount on the full amount on the borrowers' personal liabilities in order to compensate the society for any risk of their proving to be unable to recover whatever sums might become due from the borrowers in full.

That appeared to be an entirely logical and satisfactory way of approaching the problem of assessing damages in such a case. It did not involve the operation of any doctrine of mitigation of damage by the society, for it proceeded upon the basis that the covenantor was likely fully and punctually to discharge his obligations without any act on the part of the society.

Although the judge was not very explicit about his method of arriving at his figure of £3,000 discount, he appeared to have taken the appropriate circumstances into account in doing so, and there was no cogent reason for saying that he was wrong in his estimate.

Solicitors: Lawrence Messer & Co, Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

'Cocaine' includes any of its derivatives

Regina v Greensmith (Tony)

The word "cocaine" was used in Schedule 2 to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 was a generic word which included both the direct extracts of the coca leaf and whatever resulted from a chemical transformation of such extracts.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON, sitting in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) on May 27 with Mr Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice Stocker, so held, dismissing an appeal by Mr Tony Greensmith against his conviction for unlawfully possessing cocaine with intent to supply it to another.

HIS LORDSHIP said that it had been contended that Schedule 2 of the 1971 Act distinguished between

"natural" cocaine and its stereoisomeric forms, its esters and its salts, so the extent that it was necessary for the prosecution to prove in this case that the substance possessed had been cocaine and not one of its stereoisomers, esters or salts.

It was a difficult point of construction, but when seen in the context of sections 2 and 33 and Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act, it was clear that cocaine was a substance which had a number of forms and derivatives, all of which were "cocaine" for the purpose of the Act. It was not therefore necessary for the prosecution to prove more than that the substance possessed by the defendant had been cocaine in one or other of its forms or derivatives.

Hostel can be held a house under Act

Regina v Camden London Borough Council, Ex parte Rowton (Camden Town) Ltd
Before Mr Justice McCullough
[Judgment delivered May 27]

A hostel which provided accommodation for a thousand persons could justifiably be considered a "house" for the purposes of sections 12, 15 and 19 of the Housing Act 1961.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an application for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash notices served by the London Borough of Camden upon the owners of a hostel named Arlington House, requiring certain works to be carried out, and limiting the number of occupants at the second floor of the south wing of the house.

Mr George Lawrence for the owners; Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC and Mr Thomas Goudie for the council.

MR JUSTICE McCULLOUGH said that the council had ordered certain works to be carried out on the second floor of the south wing of Arlington House, pursuant to section 15(1) of the 1961 Act. Under section 19(1) it had ordered further that the number of occupants of that part of the building should not exceed 26.

The powers under the Act were exercisable in respect of a "house", and the question was whether the hostel could be considered as such, within the meaning of the Act.

There was nothing in the Housing Act 1957 or the 1961 Act to suggest that Parliament intended the word "house" to bear a wider meaning than was implied by the ordinary meaning of the word, or that it included such buildings as hospitals, hotels, hostels or army barracks.

The 1961 Act apparently gave the word a connotation which was essentially domestic. However, in *Reed v Hastings Corporation* ([1964] 62 LGR 588) the Court of Appeal had held that a hostel with 12 rooms providing accommodation for between eight and ninety schoolchildren was a house for the purposes of section 90 of the Housing Act 1957.

It appeared that the case had been decided upon grounds of policy, as the court was upholding a notice to prevent overcrowding of the premises, and it was therefore unlikely that the case could stand in view of *dicta* of Lord Scarman in *R v Barnes London Borough Council, Ex parte Shaw* ([1983] 2 WLR 16, 30) yet it was an authority which had stood for 20 years.

Accordingly there were grounds upon which the council could correctly conclude in law that the hostel was a house for the purpose of the Act, and the application would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Norton, Rose, Bonnell and Roche; Mr F. Nickson.

Tort claimants can claim when company becomes solvent

In re Arlington Metal and Plating Works Ltd
Before Mr Justice Harman
[Judgment delivered May 27]

His Lordship held that if a company in liquidation, which started as being insolvent, later became solvent, the company ceased to be subject to section 317 of the Companies Act 1948, and became subject to section 316 thereof, and that at that stage tort claimants, whose claims could not be admitted to proof while the company was insolvent, could be admitted to proof, even though that might result in some claims in an apparently solvent liquidation not being paid in full.

Mr Alan Steinfield for the liquidators; Mr Michael Kennedy for the contributories; Mr Christopher G. Russell for the tort claimants.

MR JUSTICE HARMAN said that he had already given judgment on March 23, on one question (*The Times* March 29) and he would not repeat the facts there set out. His Lordship had there decided that the tort claimants, as thereby defined, were not entitled to be admitted to proof in the liquidation, by reason of the terms of section 317 of the Companies Act 1948.

At the restored hearing the liquidators, being content with the judgment given in effect in their favour, elected not to appear, but Mr Steinfield again appeared for the liquidators, and Mr Russell for the tort claimants and on this occasion Mr Kennedy appeared for the contributories.

The contest, on this occasion, was whether once all the company's undoubted unsecured creditors and the costs of the liquidation had been paid or provided for, any surplus moneys should go to the tort claimants or to the contributories.

The importance to the liquidators in a company where there was at present in prospect a deficiency as to undoubted unsecured creditors and the costs of the liquidation was to be admitted, even if that resulted in some claims in an apparently solvent liquidation not being paid in full. Any other result would be administratively impossible, and there was no legislative or authoritative compulsion enforcing such a result.

But the liquidators, in the misfeasance proceedings, would certainly be some of the contributories. Accordingly, if any surplus could be distributed, and a comparatively small payment discharge all undoubted unsecured creditors and the costs, it might well be sensible both for the liquidators and the contributory directors to settle the misfeasance proceedings speedily, whereas if on the other hand, the tort claimants were entitled to distribution of any surplus, then the liquidators' duty would plainly not be satisfied by accepting a comparatively small sum in settlement of the misfeasance proceedings.

Thus the liquidators needed to know how what the rights to claim a surplus which might arise would be.

At present the company was clearly insolvent, and for that

reason His Lordship had held that section 317 applied, and brought in section 30 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, so as to exclude the tort claimants.

So long as his Lordship's judgment stood and the company remained insolvent, the liquidators needed to have no regard to the tort claimants. It was also plain that on a company which was not insolvent going into liquidation, section 316 of the 1948 Act applied and "all claims" were admissible to proof.

Persons who were tort claimants against a solvent company would be able to prove, and the liquidator, in such a case, would have to make a just estimate of the value of the claim.

The difficult question was what happened if a company, insolvent at the outset of the liquidation, became solvent during that process. Such a case did occur in the affairs of the old Rolls-Royce company (damaged by a company thought there to be hopelessly insolvent was able in the end to pay 45p per share to the contributories).

The judgment of Sir John Pennycuik, Vice-Chancellor, in *In re Rolls-Royce Ltd* ([1974] 1 WLR 1584, 1591) showed that a company which moved from being insolvent to being solvent also moved from the provisions of section 317 to those of section 316, but as appeared from the quotation from *In re Midland Trustways Co* ([1984] 2 Ch D 587) it only so moved when a surplus had been proved.

The real difficulty arose when the liquidator found that there were claimants such as the tort claimants, where the claims exceeded the apparent surplus. Was the company again insolvent and did section 317 again apply? If so, there being no undisputed creditors left, an external state of oscillation between the sections would be created. That might be the secret of perpetual motion, but his Lordship could not believe that it was the law.

In his Lordship's judgment, once a company had passed from section 317 to section 316, all claims had to be admitted, even if that resulted in some claims in an apparently solvent liquidation not being paid in full. Any other result would be administratively impossible, and there was no legislative or authoritative compulsion enforcing such a result.

Mr Kennedy, for the contributories, argued that once claimants such as the tort claimants were prevented from proving by section

317, they were so prevented for all time.

The propositions that liquidation and distribution were to be treated as simultaneous, that the committee of inspection had to be found from creditors entitled to prove at the date of liquidation, and that all debts were to be valued as at that date, showed that it was impossible to allow claimants who were not admitted at that date to come in thereafter.

His Lordship referred to *In re Delhi Electric Supply and Traction Co Ltd* ([1954] Ch 131), reported in the House of Lords as *Goverment of India v Taylor* ([1955] Ch 491), and concluded that although the contributories were the successful party in that case it did not follow that the contributories in the present case should be successful, and that nothing in that case bore directly on the present one.

In his Lordship's judgment the key to the whole problem lay in the concept that a company in liquidation started subject to section 317 but could then move to section 316. The tests for admission were different in the two sections.

The fact that this shift of position might occur demonstrated that the theory of simultaneous dealing had to be modified to this limited extent.

His Lordship confessed to being glad to reach this result. As Mr Justice Vinelott had rightly pointed out in *In re Berkeley Securities Ltd* ([1980] 1 WLR 1589) the gross injustice which would be caused by ruling out of account in a liquidation persons such as the tort claimants here was a consideration which would impel any judge to try to find a way of allowing them to prove.

As his Lordship had held earlier he was forced to the conclusion that the decision of Mr Justice Vinelott was wrong. His Lordship was happy that his well justified desire to see justice fairly applied could to some extent be satisfied without the difficulties which the liquidators in the present case had put before his Lordship as arising from the full scope of that decision.

His Lordship therefore held that the claims of the undoubted contributories were satisfied and the costs provided for, the tort claimants would be admitted to make their claims for distribution of any surplus.

Solicitors: Booth & Blackwell; Barnett & Barnett; W.R. Bennett & Co.

Assessment of liability for misrepresentation

Chapman v Interhouse Ltd
[Judgment delivered May 27]

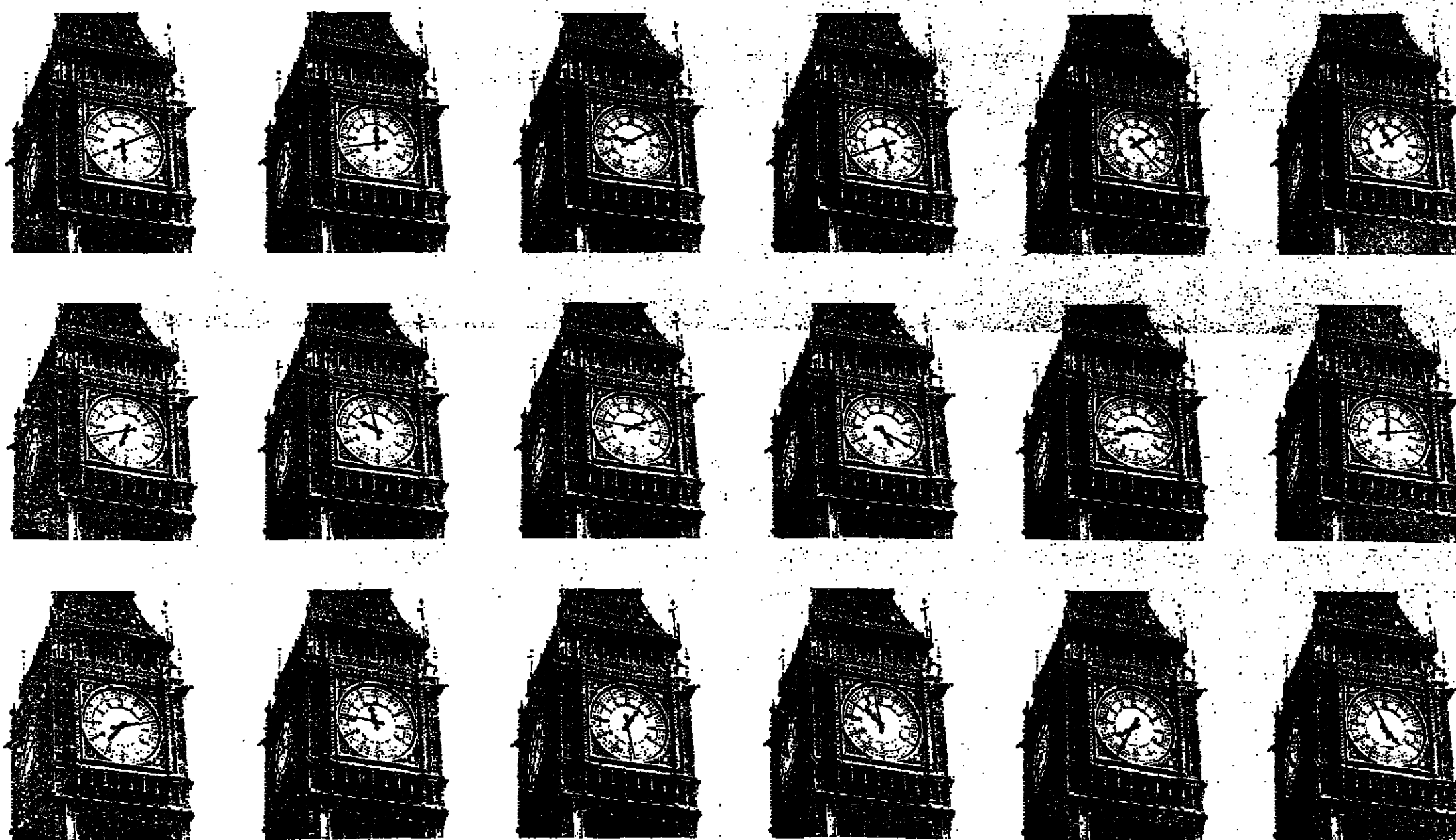
Damages for misrepresentation under section 2(1) of the Misrepresentation Act 1967 were to be assessed on the same principles as damages in tort in a case where it was represented that a holiday villa for rental was in a quiet location when it was in fact part of a commercial complex. Lord Justice

O'Connor in the Court of Appeal held on June 7.

HIS LORDSHIP said that he took the use of the word "so" in "that person shall be so liable notwithstanding that the misrepresentation was not made fraudulently" in section 2(1) to mean liable as he would have been had the misrepresentation been made fraudulently.

FLY THE LEADER.

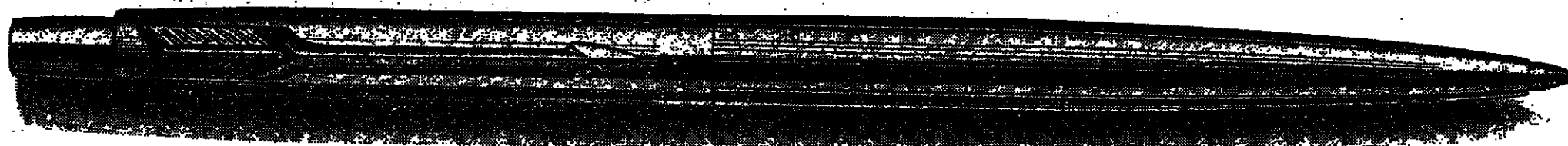
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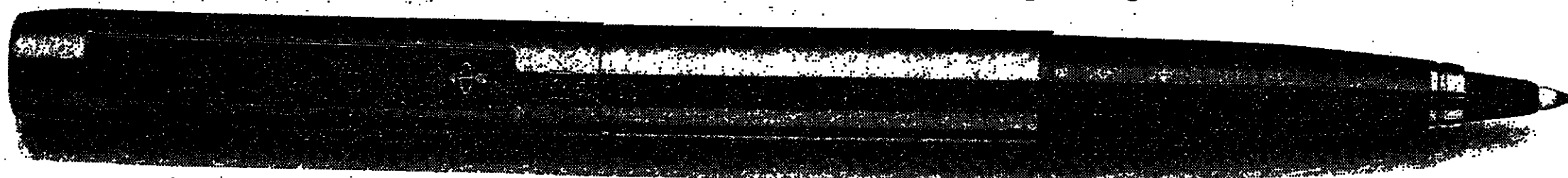
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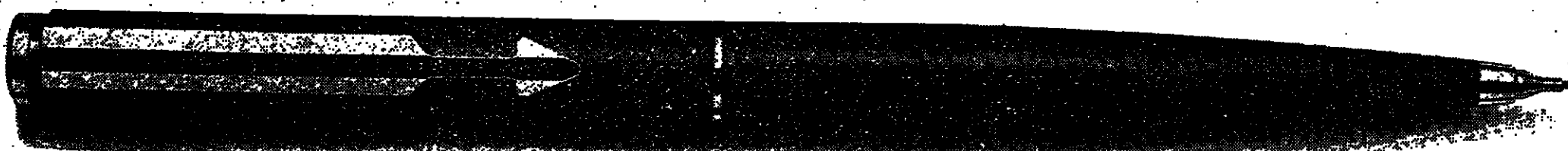
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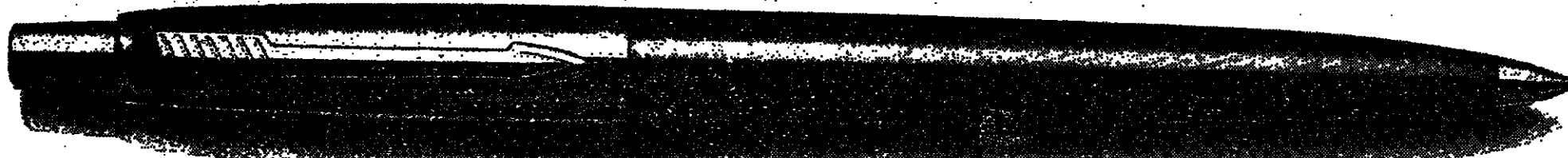
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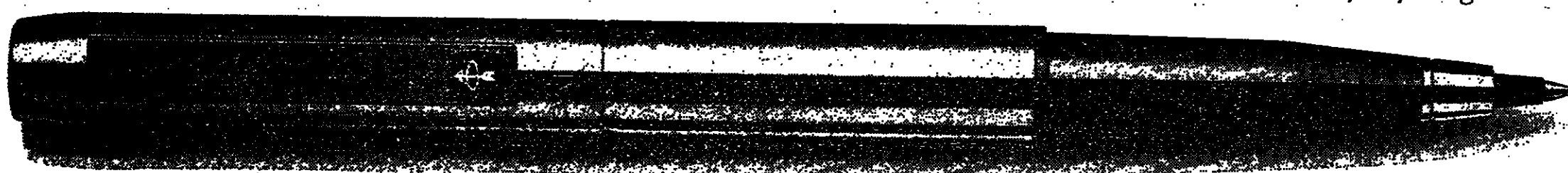
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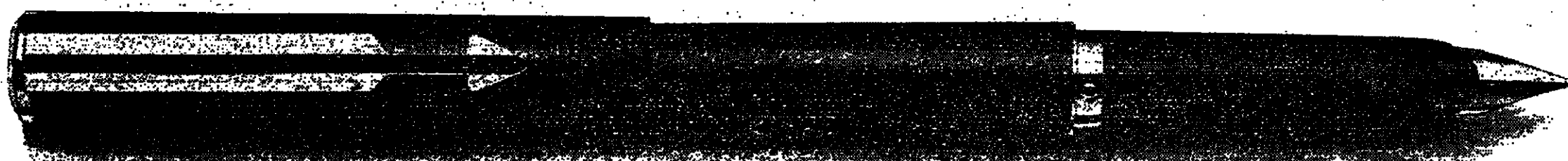
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 PARKER 

SPECTRUM

Up the poll without a vote



MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

leaving their form uncollected at the polling station; the last of the big abstainers.

But there is another group of men and women, all living in Britain and directly affected by the new regime, which has no votes at all. Some are disenfranchised - they had the vote once, but it has been taken away from them - others, like women until comparatively lately, were never given it in the first place. Who are the great unprivileged class? Why do they not rise up against the powers that be and demand their small but significant contribution to the nation's democracy? What about their rights?

A good question. And, in the circumlocution of the politicians whose day of days this is, may I answer it by asking you another? Whoever heard of the Queen voting? No one. She doesn't because she's not a commoner and doesn't want to have anything to do with the Right Honourable Riff-Raff who make such a noise on the *Today* programme that Her Majesty has to turn over to Terry Wogan each morning. And the rest of the royal family feel the same way. Even if they are on the electoral register, they are not going to vote, because royals don't and that's that. Nor do any of the House of Lords, who think that they are as near royal as you can get without actually having *The Sun* inviting itself on holiday with them.

When Nye Bevan called them "worse than ermine" (Surely it was "worse than vermouth"? Ed.) it was under the assumption that most of them were going to vote Tory. Little did he know that none of them was going to vote anything because they had a bigger, plusher, redder chamber than the mere elected Members and there is nothing that would induce them to swap their privileges for a paltry stake, once in a while, in the appointment of an envious jabbermouth who is only hoping to end up sitting in the Lords if he plays his cards right anyway.

It was Lord Hailsham, in his first incarnation, who said the British electorate would be "stark, staring bonkers" if they were to vote Labour, little knowing the catch in the constitution which says that if you are stark, staring bonkers, or even merely off your trolley, then you are not entitled to vote in any case. Or maybe that was his point: if you are thinking of voting Labour you are bonkers and therefore not entitled to vote, hence the downfall of a once-proud party. It would have been one of the most heinous tricks played upon socialism by the Upper House since Lord Stansgate hung up his coronet and insinuated himself among the commoners as Tony Benn.

Be that as it may, the thing about being crackers, if you want to carry on voting, is not to be caught at it by two doctors. One of the best places for avoiding detection is among the ranks of the House of Commons after lunch. Whereas in most professions, the more daft, ga-ga, looney-sounding, wild-haired and eyeball-swivelling you are the less chance there is of promotion, in the Commons quite the reverse is true.

Then there are minors, which is a posh name for children. They should not be confused with the other sort, who caused Ted Heath to ask who was governing Britain, only to be told smartly that he wasn't. Minors used to start at 21. Now they start at 18. Many MPs began life as minors, which is why the franchise has not been extended downwards lately - a classic example of the privileged pulling the ladder up after them.

One of the lasting puzzles of the British electoral system - and one, I should say, completely ignored by Walter Bagehot in his *English Constitution* - is why politicians spend so much time kissing minors or patting them on the head during elections. Maybe it is because they have no vote that politicians feel they can abuse them so freely.

If you are a guest of Her Majesty at, say, Windsor or Wormwood Scrubs, then you are ineligible to vote. The criminal fraternity counts this as one of its most jealously guarded perks. When inside, engaged upon an Open University course on high-precision printing or fine art or studying for a City and Guilds certificate in roof repairs, there is nothing so intrusive as a four-week hiatus while the straight and narrow get themselves sorted out.

Aliens are likewise vote-free. They can drink tea, go on strike, hate foreigners, eat fish and chips, sing Rule Britannia, dodge VAT and love the Queen Mum, but that does not make them one of us. They might call themselves British, but we think they are foreigners and, as such, they have no right to go poking their noses into our sacred birthright. We can mess it up without any help from them, thank you very much as will no doubt be proved by tomorrow morning.

Nicholas Wapshott

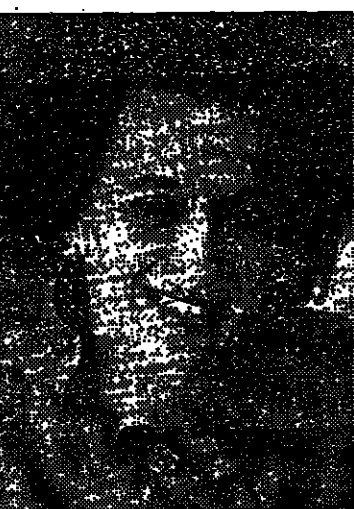


NEARLY MAN

Andrew Horden (above)
A-level student Westminster
School, who narrowly misses voting

"I do regret not being able to vote. It was so tantalizingly close. It will probably be the last chance I have to vote for my father... next time I expect I shall be living outside his constituency... I would have voted Conservative anyway unless the candidate was one I did not like. There are a few - Nigel Lawson, for example, annoys me intensely. I have considered socialism as an alternative, particularly at the start of this government, but no longer. As I see it at the moment there is only one major issue: defence. The world I am growing up in without nuclear weapons or with not enough

is frightening. I believe strongly in Trident but I don't see why the Navy should have to foot the bill completely... This election is critical if only because, as I see it, the Labour Party has rejected what it traditionally stood for. In a historical context, someone looking back in years to come will not, I think, understand anything about the Labour Party today... Unemployment is worrying, of course, but I am less concerned with that, though I realise that I'm privileged, that I've never known hardship. I imagine most of my colleagues at school would be Conservative if they bothered to think about it, and of course some do. The headmaster's a Social Democrat, I believe, and there might be one or two who would think it a good idea to vote that way too!"



ALIEN

Bonnie Angelo (left)
Bureau Chief, Time Magazine,
American citizen

"I have been here for five and a half years, so this is my second election. I'm a political junky. To rewrite Cole Porter, I get a kick from campaigns! I'm interested for two reasons, firstly, because it is a reality, secondly, because as a journalist I'm in perfect situation - totally immersed and totally non-partisan. I'm free to have my favourite personalities in all parties, and I do. Examples? Well, there's Shirley Williams and Peter Shore and John Biffen... I find the fact that your peers don't vote very odd. They seem a pretty good lot to me - you could end them with the

vote. Do I mind not being able to vote? Not at all. We are visitors in another country and if we stay here long enough we can acquire the right, but that would mean giving up one's American citizenship. How do I think our system compares? Well let me tell you, I came to Britain in awe of our parliamentary system. No, perhaps impressed would be more accurate. I used to argue with my friends in America that we might be better off with a parliamentary system instead of our madness for personalities. Having seen the House of Commons at work, particularly the rowdier members, it has lost some of its lustre. Now I feel that our much-maligned House of Representatives is in fact a more serious body... I've had so many little bets on this election - great sport!"

LIFE SENTENCE

Lord Ardwick (right)
Ex-editor, created a life peer in 1970

"I believe the House of Lords should be reformed so that you have two kinds of peers - elected and nominated... At 70 I would have to be a nominated peer or nothing. It is difficult for elderly people to act effectively in politics. About the time President Kennedy came to power we got this kind of youth image - Harold Wilson, Lord Home, Ted Heath - all by previous standards, young to become Prime Minister. We've advanced a bit since then. The Prime Minister is past her middle fifties, Michael Foot is 70, Roy Jenkins 60... and the boys David, well they will be older when they have learned to be

beardless... What do I think of the parties today? Well the Alliance is based on jelly - showing some signs of setting but jelly nonetheless. Labour is still based on rock but has presented a much criticized manifesto. I don't take manifestos seriously - a ragbag of aspirations - nor I think do people vote for them. They vote for the overall image of a party. By now the electorate has a pretty good idea how Labour and Conservative behave. The Alliance is more of a problem since they have no experience in government. At this election people will be voting on the economic future of this country - that's the central issue. How would I vote? Labour of course. There's an old tune running through my head, the last line is "If it's good enough for the working man, it's good enough for me."



SUB ROYAL

Patrick, Earl of Lichfield (right)
Hereditary peer and working
photographer

"I inherited when I was 18 so I've never voted. I do not think there should be revisions in the House of Lords. Since one is given the option of whether or not to sit there (it's called leave of absence), I think that if you agreed not to participate in matters of government you could be allowed to vote. I wouldn't say that I was true blue - but I would certainly vote for Mrs Thatcher in this election - thought I may not have in the last. It takes time to implement one's policies, whether they are the result of a strong U-turn, right turn or straight ahead and five years is not enough. She needs at least ten years. It would be very bad luck for the country if we got it wrong now; one only has to look at what's happened in France to see what a left turn can do. The trouble with the British is that as a country, we are apathetic. I belong to several trade unions, for example, but I don't go to meetings as often as I should... When I was young I think I thought 'what difference



does one vote make anyway". Now I know otherwise. It is extraordinary, looked at from an advertising point of view, that the others didn't change the two front men: if Labour had Healey at the front it would be a different matter now... I never gamble normally, but last year and in 1979 I had a bet that Mrs Thatcher wouldn't get in. I need the money if she doesn't..."

EX-CON

Geoff Coggan (left)
Ex-prisoner Wormwood Scrubs,
Wandsworth, Parkhurst, national
organizer, the National Prisoners'
Movement

"I was in Wormwood Scrubs at the time of the 1974 election - 1974 probably represented the high spot of prisoner's interest as prisoners in parliamentary elections. Since then there has been the disillusionment of three Home Secretaries in quick succession - Roy Jenkins, Merlyn Rees and Whitelaw - now representing the three parties soliciting our votes. None of the vital issues confronting the electorate is irrelevant to prisoners. They are as likely as anybody else to be blown up by

nuclear weapons and are more likely than most to be affected, on their release, by unemployment - right at the end of the queue. On election night people will be listening on transistor radios. You're not allowed to lay bets in prison of course, but it's done all the time. As to how they would vote, there are no grounds for anticipating a prisoners' "block" vote, not even on issues like capital punishment or length of sentences. The vast majority of prisoners are inside for property offences. A lot are budding capitalists who simply tried to take a short cut. Seriously, there is a deep sense of grievance among many prisoners at election time. The thought of who is going to be the next Home Secretary is strong - the thought of Tebbit, for example, awful."



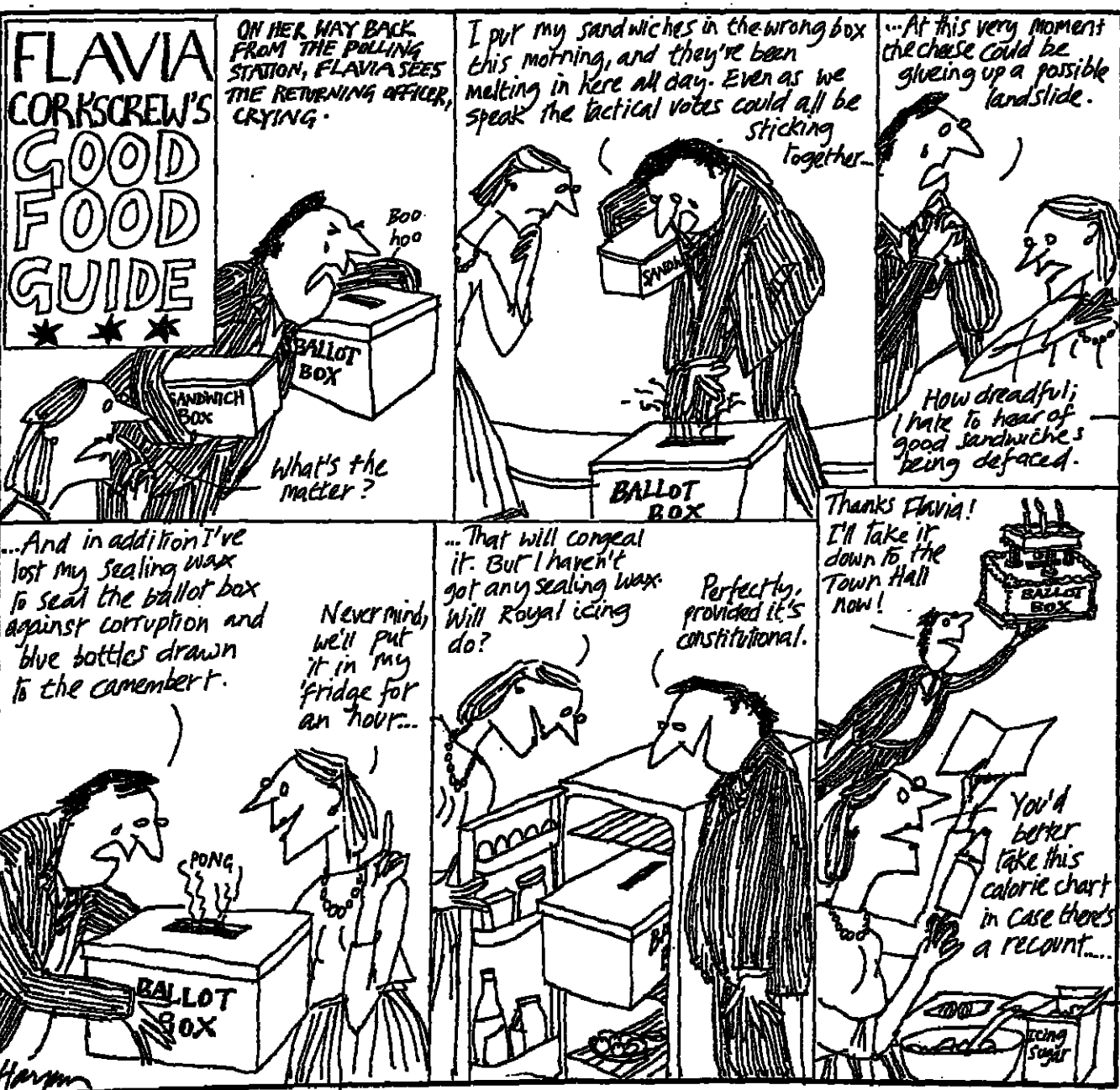
RIGHTS FIGHT

Toy Stone (above)
Director of social education,
Calderstone Hospital and Director
of nursing, Burnley, Pendle,
Rossendale District Mental
Handicap Service

"The position on Thursday is that the 110 patients who were put on the register in 1978 will participate in this election... Both major political parties are committed to improving the lives of mentally handicapped people; I don't know how the Alliance stands. At present some patients are very conscious of the issues involved in the election and want to participate; there are others not so conscious and some whose illness incapacitates them to such an extent that they are not aware of the issues at all. When we first considered getting patients on the

electoral register at Calderstones, the staff identified approximately 10 per cent of patients as being fully capable. They were put on the electoral register in 1978 and voted in the 1979 by-election. As a result of this, more people from Calderstones came forward and said: 'Why can my friend vote and not me?' We realized then that the only proper way was to put the entire population on the register, so the whole thing becomes self-selective... It took three or four years, but finally in September 1981, Blackburn Crown Court awarded the three patients whose case we argued initially the right to vote. This effectively brought about the changes which eventually led to the Mental Health Amendment Act, which comes into force this September."

Judy Froshang



Here's a really exciting game for you to play on election night. All the phrases listed below will be used from time to time on TV, by special arrangement between Moreover Ltd. and the television companies. Every time you spot one, tick it off. When you have heard them all, you can go to bed. Better still, read them now and go straight to bed.

□ "We're still waiting for the result to come in, but on the basis the computer is predicting a dead heat."

□ "Kinnock has always been a safe Labour seat, of course, but boundary changes have turned it into a safe marginal. David?"

□ "Let's look at that diagram again."

□ "And if that swing were repeated right across the country, it would mean that the Alliance would have more votes than any other party and still not have a single seat. Sir Robin?"

□ "We're still waiting for the first result to come in, so here's Gerald Kaufman to sing a song, a little song entitled: 'I have not come here tonight to discuss Michael Foot's leadership.'"

□ "Thank you, Robin. Mandelstam North, remember, has always traditionally voted for the party which turns out to form the government, but recent boundary changes have turned it into a new motorway, so let's look at that diagram again. Ivor Crewe?"

□ "Hello, I'm Ivor Crewe..."

□ "Sorry to interrupt there, but we've just heard that we've got a result in Brent Cross Shopping Centre, so over to Vincent Hanna."

□ "Brent Cross Shopping Centre used to be called Al(M) Access Road, don't forget, but

Ballotspeak

MOREOVER... Miles Kingston

recent roadworks have turned it into a highly marginal diagram. And I think we're going to get a result now."

□ "I am the returning officer for this constituency and I claim my £10."

□ "And if that swing were repeated all over the country, we could expect rain from the West, clearing later in the day. Sir Robin?"

□ "Here in the studio..."

□ "Sorry to interrupt you there, Sir Robin, but we've just heard that we've lost Vincent Hanna. Back to you, Robin."

□ "You'll notice that the orange column, representing Liberal, has shot past Labour, fallen over and broken into a thousand bits. What this basically means is that if you put in another 10p, you get a free go."

□ "Let's take another look at Ivor Crewe."

□ "Hello, I'm Ivor Crewe..."

□ "Sorry to interrupt you there, but I've just heard there's been another goal at White Hart Lane. Brian?"

□ "Results are now coming in so fast that we can hardly keep up, but the latest news is that the recount at Southampton North is actually taking place as much as we expected. David?"

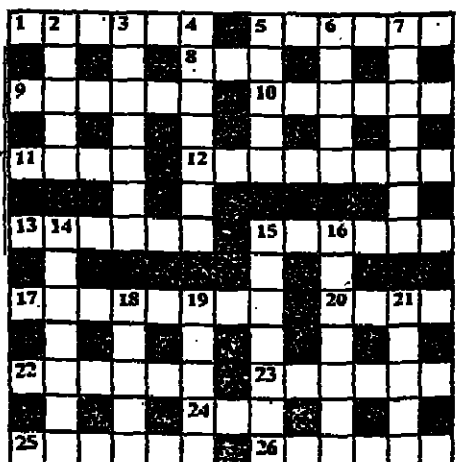
□ "Don't forget that after redistribution Robin Day is now Sir Robin Day, turning a safe commentator into a marginal, which may explain last week's shattering result against Margaret Thatcher. Neil Kinnock?"

□ "I'm Ivor Crewe, actually."

□ "I therefore declare the foresaid Arthur James Hemel Hempstead..."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 78)

ACROSS:
1 Drooping carriage (6)
5 Rider's seat (6)
8 Social insect (3)
9 Ascended (6)
10 Make wealthy (6)
11 ... and Terminus court (4)
12 Male voice (8)
13 Important person (6)
15 Easier (6)
17 Australian mammal (8)
20 Glass material (4)
22 Unwind (6)
23 Collapsed (6)
24 Not me (3)
25 Slumbering (6)
26 Haughty (6)



DOWN:
2 Truck (5)
3 Unthread (7)
4 Woman's bag (7)
5 Direct (5)

6 Challenged (5)
7 Authorization (7)
14 Isles (7)
15 Tranquil (7)
16 Puzzler (7)
18 Not these (3)
19 Invertebrate (5)
21 Perfect (5)

SOLUTION TO No 77
ACROSS: 1 Nugget 4 Esteem 7 Lien 8 Regulate 9 Atrocity 12 Bye 15 Adonis 16 Sculpt 17 Arm 19 Guidance 24 Question 25 Gale 26 Beauty 27 Errant
DOWN: 1 Null 2 Guest Room 3 Toric 4 Elight 5 Toll 6 Entry 10 Owing 11 Yucca 12 Balclava 13 Exits 14 Lava 16 Rouse 20 Unity 21 Dumco 22 Esau 23 Feet

BOOKS

Fiction: Mailer and Gerhardt Up the Nile

Ancient Evenings
By Norman Mailer
(Macmillan, £9.95)

A plague - the plagues of Egypt - on Norman Mailer. He is probably the best, certainly the most conspicuous, still the most entertaining reporter of our times. He can write some of the best literary criticism in America, and he can write some of the best fiction. He is a writer of the old-fashioned kind, a writer who believes in the power of the word, a writer who believes in the power of the imagination. He is a writer who believes in the power of the imagination.

Crude thoughts and fierce forces are my state. I do not know who I am. Nor what I was. A spectacular opening to a novel, a powerful contemporary imagination has been working on some of the world's most ancient religious records: the Pyramid Texts of the 5th Dynasty, the Coffin Texts of the 19th Dynasty, the Amarna Letters of the 18th Dynasty. In the interplay of myth and ritual in Ancient Egypt, these spells and incantations ensured safe passage for the pharaohs into the next world.

Americans like Emerson, Whitman, Melville, Poe - and Europeans like Yeats - found potent inspiration in this archaic sorcery. Souls struggling free from bodies ritually prepared for burial in unquiet graves. Magic. Sex. The world of the dead. Resurrection through reincarnation. No wonder that Mr Mailer finds inspiration, too. His long dialectical dance of death, sex, and Kabbalah - the Judaic Gnostic doctrine of evil Creation, antithetical to the Torah - should have found fine expression in a guided tour of a 19th Dynasty necropolis, evidently intended to represent late 20th century America.

The glum truth is that having found inspiration he has lost all sense of the ridiculous. 90 pages draw the reader into an extraordinary consciousness of the incarnate. The following 600 plunge to disaster. *Ancient Evenings* is not so much a novel, more a messianic mission; or a door-stop. Whatever it is, it is embarrassing. But it is serious, as well as obsessively, extravagantly silly. Mr Mailer is on record with the remark that every writer thinks he is capable of anything. He is nothing if not courageous; and he should be taken seriously, for he is out to save us, souls and all - or if not all, at least the Americans. He seeks to zap us out of darkness into light.

Previous acquaintance with Ra (god of the sun in zemi, symbol of divine order and

justice), Horus (Son of Ra), and Osiris (whose fertility cult predated and then supplanted that of Ra) may help readers drift between the cult centres of Heliopolis, Hermopolis, Memphis and Thebes; lost in a wilderness of reincarnated Kas. If you can keep your head without being driven demented by divinities, you too may be reincarnated one day.

Do not, whatever you do, read *Ancient Evenings* for the plot. There is no such thing. There is a tedium of story-telling, a prodigious quantity of violence and sexual outrage among the quick and the dead, organized in seven "Books". The first two lay the mythological foundations for the whole. Major characters include Ramses II, his Chariotier, Ramses IX, a royal lion with a wild look in his eye, and an outsize concubine called Honey-Ball, whose amputated little toe goes to show that a fellow never can tell where a girl has her G-spot until he starts in to find it.

Books III-VI run the gamut of Mr Mailer's long-standing obsessions. They are excessively long-winded. The Battle of Kadesh - an epic conflict between Ramses II and the Hittites - makes "The Book of the Chariotier" interesting on tactics; numbing on horrors. Harsh intrigues twister to similar effect in "The Book of Queens". And it is beyond belief, religious or otherwise, that the most dedicated devotee of homosexual and/or heterosexual bawdry was long stand amazed at scenes exhaustively presented in language which script-writers for Mel Brooks or the Monty Python team might envy. Not to put too fine a point on it, Mr Mailer goes a bundle on buggery. Most of it, mercifully, is absurd.

"Meni" has the dominant narrating voice throughout: thrice-reincarnated Menesheket, Chariotier and victim of Ramses II; one-time harlot, master, magic-maker, grave-rover. His stories, spun at the dinner table of Ramses IX, span his four lives - by no means merry ones - by millennium. In and out of Meni fits his Ka: the personality or protective genius that rises from the body in the moment of death, and goes to meet its "double", or heavenly Ka.

But from first breath to last gasp the voices we hear, loud and clear, are those of Norman Mailer, wild child of Israel, and his Ka, who must have been Moses, once upon a time. Not for nothing has the 19th Dynasty been selected for their messianic purpose. In that era occurred the Flight from Egypt.

Gay Firth

An ark of exotics

The Polyglots
By William Gerhardt
(Secker & Warburg, £7.95)

Introduction by Michael Holroyd

This marvellous novel was first published in 1925 when its author was 29. It was a success of destiny, and rightly so. Anthony Powell was put off reading it for several years because so many people recommended it. Evelyn Waugh "learned a great deal of my trade from it". Olivia Manning thought "it was Gogol's *Overcoat*. We all come out of him." (This was before the critical word "seminal" came into currency.) Manning's remark is a bit too vague to be viable, but it is certain that Waugh did learn a lot. Was Gerhardt a novelist's novelist merely? Alas, he wasn't a readers' novelist. He would have appreciated the irony of this re-issue six years after his death in obscurity. To hope that this time his book will get its due is a long hope. To use the ancient oratorical trick: I will not say it is a masterpiece, a classic; I will not speak of its sheer originality; or the lucidity, wit and irony of its writing; I will not comment upon the acuteness and vividness of its observation nor the intelligence and spirit. Thank you, Demosthenes, that will do. Have you read it? How could I have? The author thinks you might have.

Starkly to say what happens in this book would be utterly to spoil the way things happen. The scenes are exotic Japan, Far Eastern Russia (Harbin) in the aftermath of the War, 1920-1922, with muddled Allied Military Missions and so forth. The people are Belgian expatriates, White Russians, English, American, Japanese, and "it", the narrator, a young English officer named George Hamlet Alexander Diabologh. He is, he keeps telling us, an intellectual. He is vain, volatile, and very Chekhovian. All these people live in a shining golden mist, looming out sometimes like the fogbound sheep Wordsworth saw, then as entirely about what makes people tick. Her last novel, *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant*, was well received over here. This is an early one, published for the first time in paperback in the UK. It is about a romantic girl and an ambitious rock-singer from a small Southern town; and it is good.

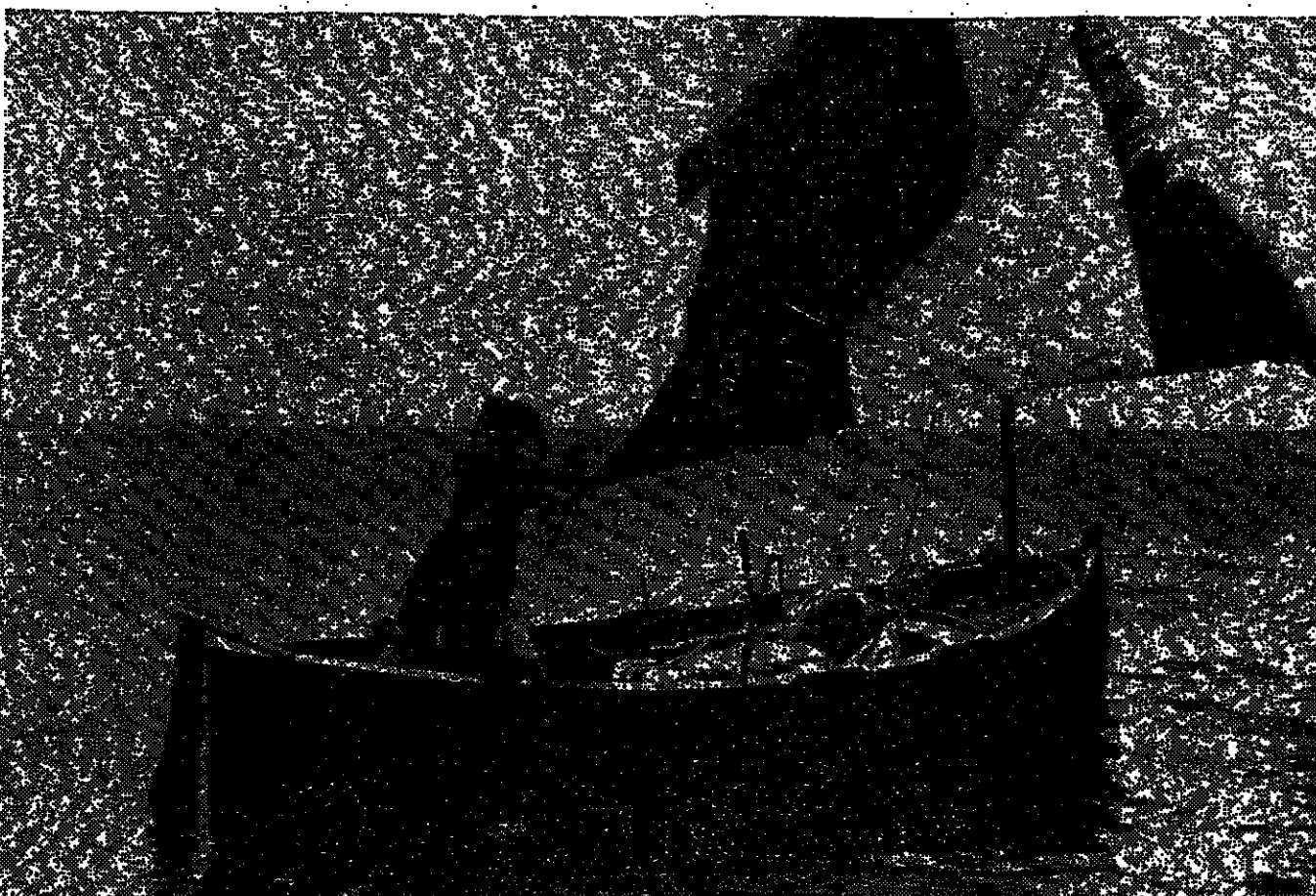
but for example, when Uncle Emmanuel tries to speak English, it is deplorable. George holds them together by being able to translate. Of course it is clear that George is largely William Gerhardt, who was brought up by his English parents in St Petersburg where his father was in business early in this century, and who only escaped from the Revolution because the Russians thought he was Keir Hardie. But the autobiographical element in the book is transformed and embellished by imagination and Gerhardt's own philosophizing and self-mockeries.

It's no use here trying to trace the family trees of the Belgian Vanderflints and Vanderphants. They are cousins or aunts of George. There is a strong Russian mixture too, and an element of fantasy. George's father and one of his uncles are named Connie and Lucy, because the parents wanted girls. Indeed the invention of names "the mythical General Pan-la-Toon", or Percy Beasty, remind one of Firbank, as does the movement of plot via often seemingly inconsequent conversational digressions. Captain Negodyevsky who had "eyes as if he had stolen somebody's cufflinks and feared to be found out".

There are innumerable little cousins, children realized with a quite astonishing penetration and love. Somehow Gerhardt by his genius has created both an ark and a caravanserai with no one but these curious lovable vulnerable people, commanded by Aunt Teresa, in it. Things do happen, often bizarre, as Uncle Lucy's suicide, or as George at last sleeping with beautiful Sylvia on the very night of her marriage to Gustave, or the agonizingly tragic death by heart-stroke of little green-eyed Natasha in the Indian Ocean, on the sudden cataclysmic voyage home to England - to Belgium - to where in the world, or out of it?

Patric Dickinson

A Slipping-Down Life, by Anne Tyler (*Secker & Warburg, £7.95*). Anne Tyler is one of the up and coming American novelists, wickedly clever, and perceptive about what makes people tick. Her last novel, *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant*, was well received over here. This is an early one, published for the first time in paperback in the UK. It is about a romantic girl and an ambitious rock-singer from a small Southern town; and it is good.



Storm swells, music swells, sail swells, and the hero escapes to meet his destiny

Resurrecting la gloire of Napoleon

Napoleon
Abel Gance's Classic Film
By Kevin Brownlow
(Cape, £10.95)

Abel Gance's epic *Napoleon* was completed in 1972, but it was not until 1980 that an audience finally saw something that approximated to its maker's design. The effect was tremendous. This ancient, battle-scarred film proved it can still hold audiences enthralled through the seven or eight hours it takes, with intermissions, to play. Gance's grand historical panorama has lost none of its thrills, and the singular emotional crescendo - he called them "paroxysms" - which reach their climax when the screen bursts out to become a huge, triptich, generate a pitch of excitement without parallel in cinema.

Kevin Brownlow's story of the making and restoration of *Napoleon* reveals a maker who was altogether as remarkable as his film. Born illegitimate, Gance left school at 14. He pushed his way into the theatre as an actor and dreamed of being a great playwright. Working in the cinema was at first only a poor substitute, to pay the rent; but before he was 30, he had made himself one of the most important directors in Europe with innovative films like *J'accuse* and *La Roue*.

There was nothing before or after quite like *Napoleon* though. Gance attempted everything. He gave the camera unlimited

mobility. He mounted it on sledges, on guillotines, on great pendulums, on horseback - though Kevin Brownlow says it is a myth that he enclosed it in a ball and threw it in the air: it seems he only thought of doing that. He carried editing techniques to their limits, using subliminal cutting, with shots of only a tenth of a second. He divided the screen into multiple images. For the triptich he devised complex shot relationships which still demand analysis. He alternately bombarded and seduced his audience.

Nobody thanked him. The film was cut and mutilated by the distributors, the triptich was abandoned. Historical assessments based on these bastard versions were not much altered by Gance's own unfortunate sound adaptations.

Napoleon would have passed away like that but for the obsession of Kevin Brownlow. When he first showed me *Napoleon* 29 years ago, he was still a schoolboy. By that time he had already reassembled about 90 minutes, which he screened on a 9.5 projector in his bedroom in Hampstead. Subsequently, he relentlessly scoured archives, private collections and junk markets across the world for the fragments from which eventually he restored *Napoleon's* glories.

With time he rallied support: the story has its villains, but there are heroes too - among them the British Film Institute, the National Film Archive, Thames Television and Brownlow's partner, David Gill. Above

all Carl Davis's orchestral accompaniment was to complement and crown Gance's own creation.

Before the work was finally realized, Brownlow had dreamed on the film almost ten times as long as Gance himself. The almost culpable modesty of his record cannot conceal the heroism of the effort; and the excitement that sustained him is communicated, so that the reader shares the thrill of every new sequence found, every obstacle overcome. Brownlow writes as if it were a letter to a friend, and the revelations of his feelings are touching: "I'm in love with the whole film. It's part of me".

His story of *Napoleon* has said and happy endings. The sad one is that with success (the resurrected *Napoleon* has already earned more than seven and a half million dollars) came the inevitable unseemly wrangling over rights and profits, which still continues. The happy end is that Gance lived long enough to see his dream restored. Kevin Brownlow remembers that among the slogans inscribed on his wall "For those with a mission to accomplish, bodily existence will last as long as is necessary". Just before he died in 1981, aged 92, Gance sent a last message to the *Napoleon* audience in London: "They have allowed me to rediscover through cinema my true language".

David Robinson

The best Prime Minister we haven't

Roy Jenkins
A Biography
By John Campbell
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10.95)

"Number Ten still beckons", this biographer writes of the Prime Minister-designate, in a closing passage which aptly mixes Jenkins' ambitions and the author's own aspirations. The kindest thing one can say at the moment is that Number Ten doesn't seem to be beckoning very hard.

One combats Dr Campbell's later chapters in search of hitherto undiscovered facts or insights which might shed light on Jenkins' thoughts and motives as he takes the kind of beating he apparently received at Ertick Bridge, but there is not a great deal to be gleaned.

Research among Jenkins' close friends and associates supports less that Jenkins is lezy, presumptuous towards the electorate or out of touch, and more

that he is prone to sudden failures of nerve.

The book suffers from the author's sympathy with his subject and closeness in time to the events which he describes. But he has an excellent description of the both Jenkins made - and it was clearly seen and felt as such by his closest associates - of resigning from the Opposition front-bench over Europe. After a sudden lurch into action at the wrong moment, he failed to follow through. After the brave and energetic campaigns in Warrington and Hillhead, Jenkins seems to have folded up in a similar way. The general election campaign shows a recovered man who is still suffering the effects of his earlier feebleness in the opinion poll ratings.

Dr Campbell diligently resurrects the many accusations laid at Jenkins' door over the years and stoutly defends him against most. The smallest slight does not slip by uncorrected. His

country home at East Hendred was apparently once described as "ramshackle". Nor so: it is "actually a very neat white-washed vicarage".

The book is at its best when the author sheds this defensiveness (and he is extraordinarily defensive about Anthony Crosland throughout) and steps back a little from his subject. With more detachment, his descriptions of Jenkins now-forgotten Parliamentary speaking skills and his accounts of Jenkins' early perceptions of the coming difficulties which would force apart the components of the coalition known as the Labour Party, would carry greater weight.

Dr Campbell provides a fine account of Jenkins' literary and historical output, but is weaker on the workings of the civil service. He cites Jenkins' habit of writing his own budget speeches as evidence that he had mastered his department. Jenkins may indeed have done so, but a Chancellor drafting his

own budget speech - which might reveal anything from literary vanity to mistrust of official drafting - is not evidence in itself of such mastery. Was it really the case that his Permanent Secretary at the time had to book a seat on a flight to Washington to hold a proper talk with him? This may have made good dinner table anecdote at the time, but by the time the first biography comes round, I think we should be told.

Much evidence is glossed as tending to show that it is Mr Jenkins' destiny to shatter the mould. Dr Campbell does not tackle the problem that Mr Jenkins is himself a smoothly-turned product of this very mould and from a fairly early pressing. The SDP seems to be in the process of discovering that a man who ascended to the top of a mass-based party via the fast stream, may not be the ideal man to build a new one from the ground upwards.

George Brock

Poetry

Fish and miracles for breakfast

The American poet Elizabeth Bishop was probably undervalued in this country during her lifetime - she died in 1979 at the age of 68. Her work appeared in the usual anthologies; she received critical attention usually in the same breath as her older contemporary, Mary Marianne Moore; if she was praised it was nearly always for the same handful of poems, notable among them one called "The Fish", which were characterized as being brilliant bits of close natural observation. Now the publication of a sizeable volume entitled *The Complete Poems 1927-1979* (Chatto & Windus with the Hogarth Press, £10.95) affords the opportunity for some reevaluation of her gift. I should say at once that Bishop does not strike me as a poet of great emotional impact - but then emotion is not all the story, and the evasive wit she employs to hide her heart is part of the pleasure her work offers an attentive reader. At her best she achieves originality by describing exotic scenes in a manner of fact-way, as in "The Man-Moth", a powerful fantasy which takes off from a newspaper misprint for "man-moth". Her other wholly successful manner is to exploit a fanciful notion just this side of sentimentality, as in "Sleeping on the Ceiling".

We must go under the wallpaper to meet the insect-gladiator, to battle with a net and trident, and leave the fountain and the square.

But oh, that we could sleep up there.... The last line quoted wobbles in its wishfulness, but that is unusual for so fastidious a craftsman. Another very good poem is called "A Miracle for Breakfast", and that title can be employed to suggest what it is that Elizabeth Bishop has to give us: new ways of finding the miraculous in the everyday. She had her own vision, and she used her own voice to define it. I doubt whether she was a major poet, but verse in English is the poorer for her absence.

111 Poems (Carcanet New Press, £5.95) is a selection from the five books which Christopher Middleton has published since 1926. This poet has a reputation for being eccentric to the point of obscurity. The present volume shows that reputation to be more apparent than real, and in one longish impressive piece - "At Portico-thor" - Middleton demonstrates that the essence of his talent is for a kind of passionate description not all that far away from Wordsworth. The poem celebrates the poet's attempted rescue of a half-drowned bird: Early next morning, on the bay's north side, I found it cuddled under the cliff. The tide was low again. When hungry darkness Had driven so the dark young shag to shelter? It did not resist when I picked it up. Something had squeezed the cobra out of it.

The bird resists the poet's attempts to feed and revive it; it dies, and he flings its corpse into the sea - Or perhaps (for I could not see the body falling) A hand rose out of air and plucked the corpse. From its arc took it, warm still, To some safer place and concealed it there. Quite unobtrusively, but sure.

I very much like both the tone and the substance of that, and it sounds a note of quiet feeling also to be heard in some dozen or so other poems in this most accomplished book.

D. M. Thomas is now well-known as a novelist, but the writing of verse was his first vocation. His *Selected Poems* (Secker & Warburg, £6.95) contains a lot of work which is for my taste all too evidently motivated by the obsessions which went to the making of *The White Hotel* - Thomas, in his preface, calls those themes or obsessions "love and death". But I reckon they are really sex and violence. He has verbal facility, but little sense of rhythm, and it is probably as well that he has now turned his ambitions to prose.

Finally a word in praise of Padraic Fallon's *Poems and Versions* (Carcanet New Press with Raven Arts Press, £3.95). Fallon was a distinguished Irish poet (1905-1974) who had little time for the politics of fame, and who published only one volume in his lifetime. This

Vanishing America

Blue Highways
A Journey into America
By William Least Heat Moon
(Secker & Warburg, £8.95)

A man who couldn't make things go right could at least go working on this brutally laconic premise, as transatlantic in its way as buckwheat pancakes. William Least Heat Moon, a part-Indian college teacher, having lost his wife and his job in quick succession, packed a half-ton Ford van with such obvious necessities for such an expedition as Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and Neihardt's *Black Elk Speaks* and took the open road out of Missouri. He drove 13,000 miles across this America and returned to write this brilliant and extraordinary book.

He travelled in search of the day-to-day America. He kept to the back roads, dedicated blue on the highway maps of old America, the Blue Highways of his title, which take on a real sky-bluesness, observed only perhaps by very literate truck-drivers, just before the dawn and a little after dusk. This was an unashamedly romantic journey. Dodging the chuckholes that *Time* magazine estimates Americans spend 625 million dollars per year in extra fuel to circumnavigate, William Least Heat Moon made for the small towns, the Tom Lehrer ones, the undeveloped towns which haven't yet seen neon light.

Here there is a taste of William Least Heat Moon in transit:

Since daylight I'd been hunting a good three- or four-calendar café. Nothing in Tomahawk or White Lake, Ellipticaltown, no I crossed the Cape Fear River, looked in Lumberton and found nothing right. Then I overshot a turn and got pulled out 1-95. Truck diesel spouts blowing black, the throttle-guts slammed past me as if I were powered by caged gorillas; campers hauling speedsters rushed into Saturday, and so did stationwagons with windows filled full of beach-balls, cardboard boxes, and babies.

He writes well and showily not unlike Wolfe but less frenetic. His view of humanity is more akin to Alan Whicker's for he is gentle, quizzical, subtle and sure-footed in his approaches to places and to people, with an endearing patience in sounding out the ground.

Let me try to explain his attitude to cafés, especially the three- or four-calendar ones mentioned, for these are an important factor in his travels. It is in his view that nothing shows the tone of a small town more quickly than the breakfast grill or five-thirty tavern, and it is his theory that the quality of cafés in blue-highway America is instantly revealed by the number of calendars spied hanging on the wall. One- or two-calendar cafés are not worth stopping for (though two-calendar cafés which also display fish trophies may possibly be passable). Three- or four-calendar cafés are the

minimum acceptable, with OK farm-boy breakfasts and, with luck, a home-made pie. Five-calendar cafés are rare and best kept secret, in case the owners, swollen with success, decide to franchise. William Least Heat Moon writes lyrically of the meal they served him in his one six-calendar café, on the Ozarko. But in the country where the frylines now proliferate, seven-calendar cafés have become a golden legend, and as for the old geologist who used to be able to tell whether food had been cooked east or west of the Kentucky River, this is part of a culture the most dedicated traveller (even one with his Walt Whitman in a Ford truck named "Ghost Dancing") is wasting his time chasing.

No, as William Least Heat Moon sardonically discloses, Ma is now rarely, if ever, in her beany or Pa in his barbecue pit. So if not there, where are they? This indeed is the big question. As traditional meeting-points around the town evaporate, each small community is seen to suffer from a sense of dislocation, and the silence is uncanny. Central Square hotels have gone, ousted by the down-town motels. There used to be the barber-shops, but since electronics conversation is now drowned by the whining of the hairdryers. Even the filling stations, where a bit of local news got exchanged from time to time, are now becoming "nothing but expensive puzzles", as the writer nicely puts it.

Such strange silences are wasteful. For Americans, of course, are nothing if not talkers, and this book's greatest glory, the thing which stays most clearly in one's mind when one has read it, is in fact the conversation, functional or philosophical, the human dialogues into which all US citizens searched down by "Ghost Dancing" are inevitably drawn, sometimes against their better judgment.

Of the hundreds of exchanges on the round trip from Missouri via Boring, Kentucky and Nameless, Tennessee, there are two which I found especially appealing. The talk with the edgy intellectual in Ohio:

"Homo viator?"
"Homo spectans."
"Thoreau travelled extensively in Concord."

"And Socrates learned nothing from fields and trees."

The stop at the Husky Café (without calendars) at Shelby, Montana, where the waitress slid a platter of three eggs down her arm:

"Only ordered two", I said.
"The eggs was small tonight."

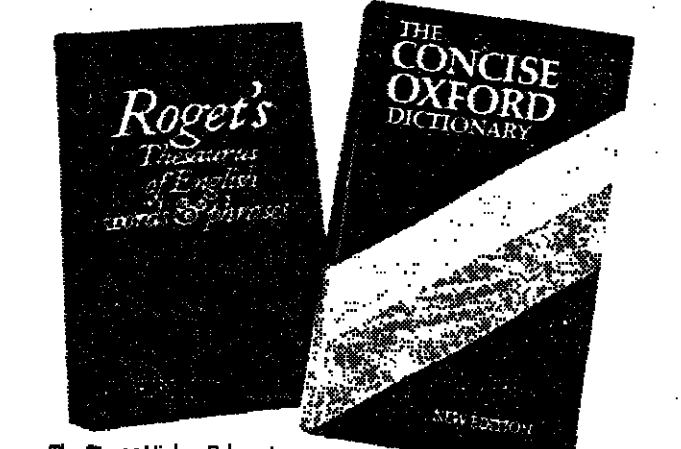
In Shelbyville, Kentucky, he sees a man obsessively pulling off the siding of a modern house, revealing an early nineteenth century log cabin. Such small scenes, sharply described with an unusual wit and deftness, accumulate to make a long large book of rare delight.

Fiona MacCarthy

Rome's North-West Frontier: The Antonine Wall, by William Hanson and Gordon Maxwell (Edinburgh University, £17.50): our other wall is not just a national monument. As Rome's northernmost frontier it is of interest to the whole civilized world. This definitive account, elegantly produced, gives not just the archaeological, but the history, the life, and the gossip of the wall.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Footinitism

I do not suppose for a moment that Michael Foot intends to immortalize Norman Tebbit, but at yesterday morning's press conference the Labour leader began speaking with alarming regularity of "Tebbitism". He did not specify the nature of this quality, other than saying that if the Tories were to be elected tomorrow, Britain would become "an ugly, uncaring, Tebbitite society". Later he even referred to "Tebbitism/Teberism". It does not have quite the ring of Buskellism, or even Marxism/Leninism, but I suppose one can get used to anything.

Signing off

When I embarked on this anagram business, I never expected such copious assistance from my readers, brilliant though they have been, this is positively my last attempt to rearrange our politicians. The difficult Michael Heseltine becomes, thanks to Margaret Barclay of Brussels, either "Eee, I'm in Heath's cell", or "Eh! Silence the Mail?". Denis Healey's convoluted plea to his constituents is "Ah, ye in Leeds!", while the Labour leader shouts from his lonely perch: "Hi! Come aloft!" To which David Owen replies: "A dive down". Gerry Finkle, of Barnet, delivers Francis Pym as "fancy prism". Roy Hattersley as "rat role, yet shy" and Bill Rodgers a "bridge rolls". From tomorrow I shall return to spelling names correctly and leave the fancy stuff to the crossword compilers.

My prize for the most upstaged of the campaign goes to the London Borough of Barking, where a by-election is being held today.

Of course

When vote-counting starts at Portsmouth South, David Fry (Traditional English Food and Good Life Party), my last free-thinking candidate, will already be tucking into his victory dinner. This will include venison broth, sprats in cream and mustard sauce, and sirloin of beef in pastry with game sauce. Fry's manifesto claims that we could all feel better and the economy would improve if we ate good traditional English food. He pledges that his appetite will continue undiminished, no matter how bad the overall result.

BARRY FANTONI



"Who said you can't fool all the people all the time?"

Rising stock

This has not been the easiest of times for Sir Robin Day. First the Prime Minister removes his knighthood, then he receives the London Dungeon's Pillory Award for the personality whom its visitors would most like to see in the stocks and pelted with rotten eggs. Day narrowly beat Joan Collins and Michael Parkinson for the honour, previously held by Des O'Connor and Barbara Cartland. But Mrs Thatcher has made amends for her slip on the last Election Call she made and she addressed him.

Timber!

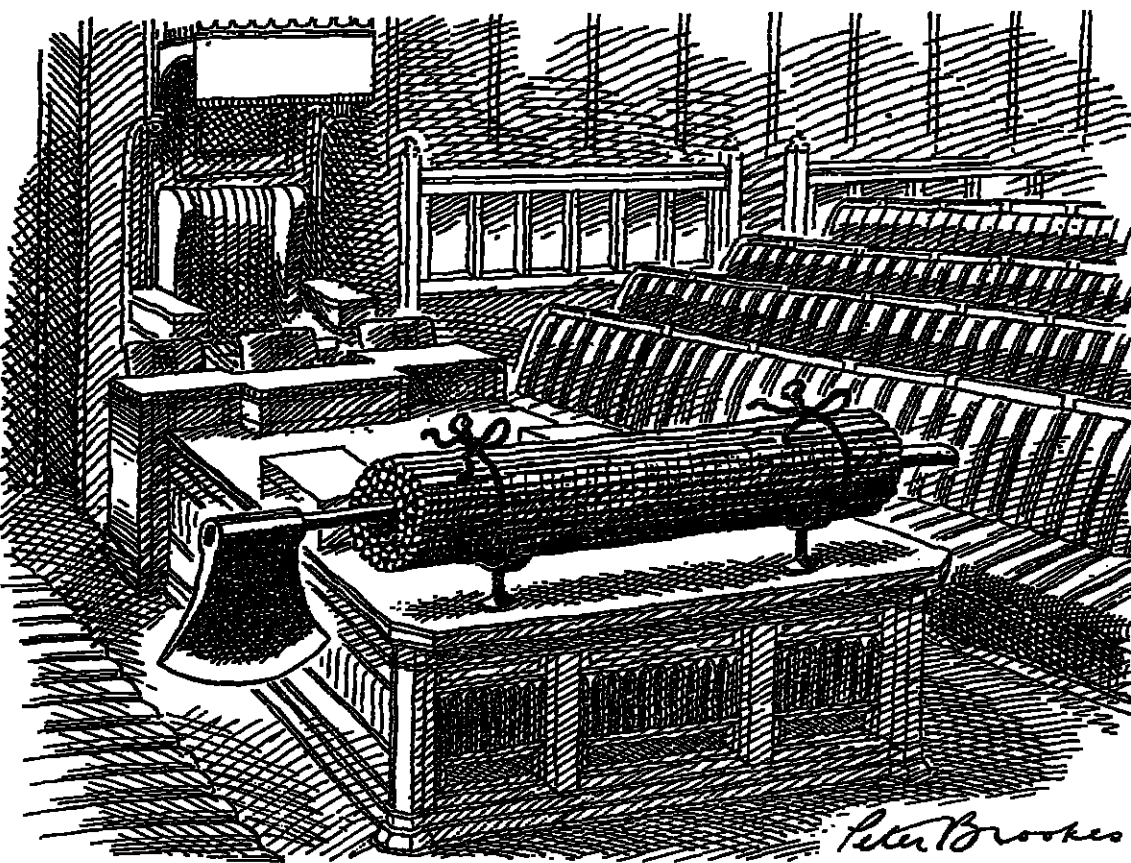
The Prince of Wales, Peter Jay and David Bellamy, among others, joined forces yesterday to launch the Conservation and Development Programme for the UK. Subtitled "a response to the World Conservation Strategy", it occupies two volumes, totalling 600 pages, and is perhaps 10 times as long as the document to which it is responding, which shorts us not to cut down too many trees and the like. The World Wildlife Fund has printed 4,000 sets, of which at least five (mostly unsolicited) have arrived at this office. Isn't that a bit of a waste, especially at £22.90 a set, and not even on recycled paper? "It reflects the very high esteem in which we hold The Times", says a quick-thinking conservationist.

As a junior secretary for Northern Ireland, David Mitchell is no stranger to the physical dangers of politics, but he had never, until this week, regarded North West Hants as an area of high risk. For 19 years a Conservative MP, Mitchell has been canvassing zealously in this constituency - almost too zealously. One door was opened by an attractive young woman, and they are joined on the doorstep by a blond setter, to whom the candidate addressed the following remarks: "Aren't you lovely. Aren't you gorgeous. I'd love to take you away with me." The husband, whom Mitchell describes as robust, was out of sight but not out of earshot and offered to his wife Mitchell's very tact averted an ugly scene, and he is even expecting the couple's 10th.

PHS

Bernard Levin on the strategy of Labour's new hard men

Don't laugh too soon, the fascist left is just biding its time



answer in the form of another question: how many members of the Militant Tendency are there among the Labour majority on the Greater London Council? I am open to correction by Mr Douglas Eden or Mr Gerard Kemp, those two great taxonomists of the hard left's varieties, but I believe the answer is none. Yet who will deny that County Hall is now infested with members of a tendency far less naive, far wider in its ambit and far more confident of its ability to operate without disguise and yet proper? It is not an organization at all, but it has been given a name, by Mr Tom Stoppard, which describes it with deadly accuracy: the "fascist left".

Such people are a minority among the Labour group on the GLC, but their feeble opponents among the majority have made only one attempt to challenge or check them (over Mr Ken Livingstone's attempt to invite the IRA to send representatives to London). Exactly the same situation exists in Sheffield, and now in Liverpool too; a number of local councils are similarly controlled, most notable among them the London Borough of Islington.

The conduct of these people is characterized by their contempt for the rights of the opposition parties, an attitude which is always one of the most reliable indicators of the totalitarian mind. Mrs Anne Sofer, the only SDP member of the GLC, has described on this page the way in which the rulers of the GLC contrive to prevent any examination of their looting of the public purse for distribution in donations to their supporters and potential supporters, the intimidation experienced by the only opposition member of Islington council would long ago have destroyed a less resilient man; in Sheffield the controlling group has gone far towards turning the city into something scarcely distinguishable from a Soviet fief.

As powerful as the contempt for opposition is the contempt for the people - the other infallible test of the anti-democratic attitude. The groups which control the local authorities I have mentioned do not believe that any but a handful of voters want the policies they pursue; but they pursue them with relentless assiduity none the less. For they are

not in the business of serving the voters. Their business is something very different: it is the gathering of power. And the more they acquire, the easier it becomes for them to acquire still more.

It could not be supposed that the fascist left would long remain unrepresented in Parliament. What ever happened in this election, a substantial number of Labour MPs who have no regard for parliamentary democracy will have been returned. Some analysts have said that they will constitute a majority of the PLP; this seems to me very unlikely, though if their genuinely democratic colleagues prove to be as cowardly as their counterparts on the GLC, that will hardly matter.

Others say that if there is a Conservative government with a large majority there is nothing democracy's enemies in Parliament can do. Such a view underestimates the damage they can do to parliamentary democracy by their behaviour in the House of Commons - for I am willing to predict a considerable increase in intimidatory abuse, procedural obstruction and refusal to accept the traditional unwritten rules of Parliament which are essential to its proper working. The hard men among the new Labour intake will not set out to organize a coup and take over the country; such nonsense is nowhere in their minds. They will instead continue to aim at taking over the Labour Party, using the enormously more powerful position that having substantial numbers of their men in Parliament will give them. Their calculation is simple, and almost certainly correct: they reason that if they can complete their capture of the Labour Party, sooner or later the Labour Party, under their control, will win an election, not because the country has espoused revolutionary communism, but more or less by default. And then?

What we have to face is the fact that for the first time in Britain we have a genuinely Leninist movement that is of sufficient size, ability, and dedication to demand that we take it seriously. The Stalinists of the Communist Party, in or out of the PLP, have no real influence except in CND, some trade unions and labour relations

generally (though that "except" covers a great deal of success); the Militant Tendency will be employed by the Leninists wherever they can be useful to the cause, though the real hard men must despise them as much as Lenin despised his own equivalents (he wrote a pamphlet about them, called *Left-wing Communism: an Infantile Disorder*); but if the long march of the implacable enemies of democracy will not be speeded up by such groups on their flank, neither will it be slowed down by any respect for Parliament and its properties. There was nothing at all that Lenin would not do to further his aims: in this, too, Britain's Leninists resemble their evil patron.

If the Labour Party has lost today's election, particularly if it has lost it very badly, there will be laughter in many quarters at the absurdity of what I have said in this column. Allow me to assure the amused that none of the people I have in mind will waste their time laughing, or for that matter weeping, setbacks mean as little to them as the disesteem of their opponents, and they will simply continue with their work, inside Parliament now as well as outside.

That will not stop the laughing, either. But people have laughed before now, and subsequently decided that there was really nothing much to laugh at. Once upon a time before the First World War, or so the story goes (*se non e vero...*), when Trotsky was living in Vienna under his real name, Bronstein, he used to spend his days at the Cafe Central, where he would scribble interminable manifestos and articles for obscure magazines, which were smuggled into Russia in pitifully small numbers.

Two Austrian socialists were talking one day about the coming revolution. One, loyal to Marxist theory, insisted that it would come in an industrially advanced country like Germany; the other predicted that it would be in Russia. His friend told him he was talking nonsense; there wasn't even an urban proletariat in Russia, an essential prerequisite for revolution. "And besides", he concluded, "a revolution needs leaders, and who is there to lead a revolution in Russia - little Mr Bronstein, down at the Cafe Central?"

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Ronald Butt

Why this election could be a real turning point

This election is first and foremost about the challenge that Mrs Thatcher represents for the British people. It is about her invitation to them to act on, and not to try to escape from, the realities with which she confronts them. Yet historically the election is about the Labour Party. For it was Labour's performance in the 1960s and 1970s - when, with the unions, it was the pivot of British politics - that brought us to a new turning point at which Mrs Thatcher emerged into power.

In 1945, the country elected the Attlee government because it wanted a new deal, because the social changes unleashed by the war had spread the conviction that the Tories were not the party to deliver one, and above all because the electorate had been convinced by the presence of Labour ministers in the wartime Cabinet that they were fit to govern. The prewar misgivings about Labour pacifism and its extremist wing had fallen away.

By 1951, after the Attlee government's injection of a large but not decisive dose of socialism into the body politic, the electorate had decided that it had had enough. It had got what it had principally wanted in the modern welfare state. But it did not want more nationalization and it came to suspect that Labour politicians liked controls, restrictions and bureaucracy for their own sake.

So the Conservatives were returned to power and a new political dispensation was established in which both Tories and Labour broadly acquiesced. Both parties accepted the post-1945 welfare state, a free society and a mixed economy - though each party drew somewhat differently the desired lines between individual and collective responsibility, and between private and public ownership. There was a bipartisan defence and foreign policy.

After 13 years of Tory government (which, following the fashion of that time, inclined increasingly towards economic planning at the end of its term) Harold Wilson led Labour back to power. He was able to do so because his predecessor, Hugh Gaitskell, had defeated attempts to commit Labour to left-wing socialism. Wilson won (just) in 1964, and again in 1966 because he convinced enough of the electorate that Labour would maintain the mixed economy and could solve the nation's problems by voluntary planning for prosperity in consultation with the trade unions and managements. Economic growth, secured by agreement, would pay, painfully for better benefits for all.

The unions destroyed that grand design by refusing to deliver the pay restraint required by the government's plans. They defeated a similar Tory attempt under Edward Heath and created a crisis in which the electorate drove the Conservatives from office, but significantly refused Labour an outright majority. With either no majority, or with a tiny majority, or with the help of the Liberals the Wilson-Callaghan governments of 1974-79 survived to try to control a deteriorating economy - this time by blatantly buying the unions off with the Dangeled of government spending. Predictably, the unions behaved like marauding Danes and in the winter of 1978-79 destroyed the Callaghan government.

Their success in doing so was due in large measure to the capture by the left-wing of the strongpoints of Labour's power, which previous Labour leaders had successfully defended. Adopting the attitudes of the Popular Front towards the extreme Marxist groups now infiltrating the party, the left quickened its push for power after 1979, driving some of the party's social democrats out altogether and forcing others to acquiesce in policies they disagreed with. The election of Mr Foot as leader was the symbol of the left's triumph.

So the national consensus of the 1950s and early 1960s was broken, and Labour offered the nation a socialist party of the kind that the British people have repeatedly shown they do not want. Mrs Thatcher, therefore, had to start from first principles. There was no solution through the old consensus ideas of incomes policy; Labour had destroyed them. Some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues found it hard to accept that so sharp a break with the past had to be made. They feared that the Conservatives would be punished if they attempted a new beginning. Today, those fears are likely to be shown to have been misplaced. In its heart, the nation already understood the truth that Mrs Thatcher expressed.

Mr Foot complains that the Tory lead in the opinion polls throughout the campaign reflects the bias of the media. If that were true it would still not explain the Tory lead before the campaign began. Nor, in face of three million unemployed, would the so-called Falklands factor. Looking back over past elections I am convinced that the outcome is usually (not invariably) determined before the campaign starts. The electorate largely decides on its memory of the parties' behaviour over preceding years. The apparent uncertainty of many during a campaign is comparable to the behaviour of a man who knows in his heart that he is going to buy a particular house, and yet cannot bring himself to say so until near the end - preferring to test his decision by open opinions and voiced doubts.

But the decision (saving only surprising new information) is virtually made. Likewise, the people knew what they were going to do about this election long before the campaign started. They knew there could be no return to the old consensus; that the Labour Party is no longer a representative party.

If there is a landslide (and land-slides, as in 1906, 1931 and 1945 can be valuable turning points in social change and political opinion), it will force the unions and the moderates who stand to the left of centre to come to terms with the nation's historic rejection of socialism. Whether there is a Tory landslide, or whether the Alliance gets a slice of Labour's lost territory, the Social Democrats will have to redefine their policies to mean something different to those of the dead Wilson-Gaitskell years.

As for Mrs Thatcher, whether she has a landslide or merely a solid victory, she will have the making of the new terms of political reference - and to endure it must be based on magnanimity and the expression of the national will above all class interests. The decline and fall of the Labour Party teaches us that that is what the nation wants.

William Safire

Raining cats and anchovies

Washington
The gravest question facing the world today is: Who or what is tampering with El Niño?

El Niño de Navidad - Spanish for "the Christ child", because of its appearance each year around Christmas - is the warm current that flows down the Pacific coast of South America, periodically playing havoc with fishing and even reversing the direction of trade winds. Most years, this "southern oscillation" is pushed back out to sea by the icy Humboldt current, in which anchovies gambol. Not last year or this.

This spring the most persistent El Niño in a century has caused storms in Texas, tornadoes in California, persistent rain in Paris and floods in West Germany. The world has rarely been so wet; prudent people can hardly be blamed for thinking about ark.

After a six-fathom-deep back-ground session with the anchovy expert at the CIA, I predicted 10 years ago that the use of electronic fish-finders by greedy Latin fishermen in the face of El Niño would lead to decimation of the catch, a worldwide protein shortage and an explosion of inflation. Since all this came to pass, the pundit on top of the El Niño story intends to stay there.

Who or what is behind El Niño's rampage? Round up the usual suspects:

1. Right-wing Peruvian fishing interests
This theory doesn't hold water. Fishermen have learned not to tamper with El Niño but to accept its periodic recession as a healthy corrective to times of abundance. Would that economists could learn so quickly.

2. The Russians
Certainly the motive is present. Marxist-Leninists have much to gain from economic dislocation throughout the world, and revolution breeds chaos where the skies are cloudy all day. Could not a technocracy capable of shipping the gas of Siberia to the kitchens of Europe also be able to divert one ocean current?

What was America's Glimmer Explorer looking for down there anyway? Moscow has been outspending America 10-to-1 on bathythermographs, and neo-oscillationists have been deriding America's efforts to catch up.

3. Volcanoes
Some crack-brained meteorologists argue that the eruption of El Cichón in Mexico, and the continuing sootiness of Mount St Helens in the United States, messed up the trade winds by warming the upper atmosphere, and thereby prevented El Niño from being blown out to sea. This is balderdash.

4. The Martians
A malign presence in outer space would be expected to put El Niño to use with simple gravitational suspension. On the other hand, benign visitors from other solar systems might want to rinse the waxy world of Earth a little so as to observe us better. No hard evidence of other worldly intervention comes to hand, but certainly this possibility is more credible than drivel about volcano soot.

5. God
Modern theologians are loath to attribute stress-causing vengeance to a Divine Being, but who is to say He hasn't been given good reason to rain down hailstones? Those who tend to dismiss this hypothesis are given pause by the name of the current.

6. The Devil
It could be that the previous suspect is not angry yet may consider another test of faith to be desirable. In that case El Niño could be put in the hands of the Prince of Mud Slides for a year or so, temporarily to visit injustice on home owners and to reward renters. None of these potential causes for the affliction of El Niño can be ruled out, with the exception of volcanoes, which is ridiculous. Personally, I tend to blame the Russians. If they're not doing it, they're probably getting away with something else, and it even out.

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The press and the election:
Christopher Ward
looks for a pattern in
Fleet Street's spate of
union disruption

Now that the election is all over bar the voting, I hope that Fleet Street will be taking a look at the sinister and significant events that have taken place on its own doorstep during the campaign: namely, the attempts by the unions, with some success, to interfere with the freedom of the press.

The first attempt to surmount an editor was made by members of the National Union of Journalists chapel (branch office at the Daily Mail, who protested at the paper's one-sided coverage of the campaign and called on the editor, Sir David English, to correct the imbalance. Judging by subsequent issues of the Mail, this protest was entirely unsuccessful. But on Saturday night more than 200,000 copies of The Observer were lost when the editor, Donald Treford, refused members of the National Graphical Association the right of reply to a Conservative Party advertisement. As The Observer is one of the few national newspapers to support the Labour Party, one wonders what the printers hoped to achieve by keeping the paper off the streets.

The following night the first edition of the Daily Express was printed with a blank space where its main leader should have appeared. The editor, Sir Larry Lamb, refused the NGA the right of reply. The printers took particular exception to the first paragraph, which said: "The rain poured down yesterday on the March for Jobs rally in London. Most people will say: 'Serve them right.' Again, the union backed down, but not before several thousand copies of the paper were effectively censored."

And, of course, the voice of the Financial Times has been silenced during the crucial last week of the

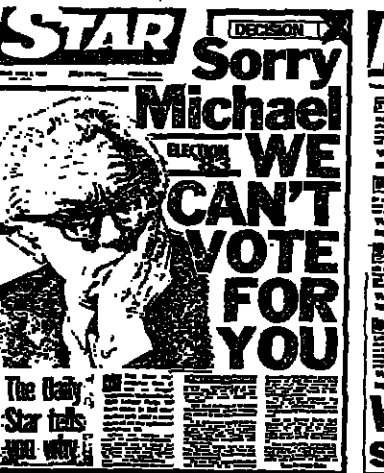


The Star gives it to them straight, so does the Mirror - but too late to have an impact

election campaign by an NGA walk-out over a pay dispute. Since the FT is one of the few politically independent newspapers and had been taking a particularly unfriendly view of the Government, it is hard to see the political thinking behind the printers' action. But in the climate of this industrial censorship, Arthur Scargill's remarks that "legislation to take newspapers... into state ownership should take priority above all else for any future Labour government" ought to be treated by Fleet Street as a serious threat to editorial freedom.

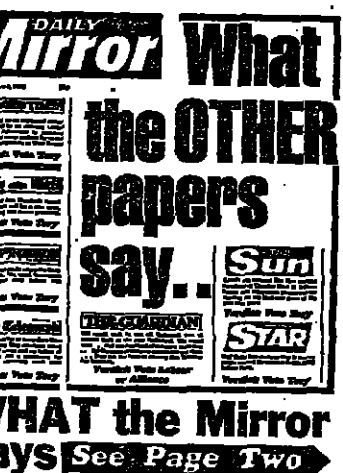
Tuesday was the day that cynics, students of humbug and readers of the Daily Star had been awaiting with excitement and anticipation since the beginning of the election. The Daily Star, adopting the slogan, "the paper that gives it to you straight", had promised its readers impartial reporting of the campaign and "our verdict loud and clear when the time comes". Which party would this fiercely independent paper with a Tory proprietor end up backing? The suspense was killing.

But on Tuesday we were put out of our misery. "Sorry Michael, we can't vote for you," said the Star's



banner headline. Why? The Star's editor, Lloyd Turner, went to enormous lengths to explain why and how his newspaper had come to this difficult decision. "The Labour Party has changed... We believe a change of direction at this time could be potentially catastrophic... this newspaper believes in firm, clear leadership... like it or not, there is only one leader REALLY in charge of a political party, a political philosophy, in Britain today. That person is Margaret Thatcher." But didn't the Daily Star know all this before the election?

Unfortunately for Michael Foot, Labour's tabloid ally, the Daily Mirror, entered the battle when the election already seemed to be lost. Its "Waste of a Nation" series has been in the best campaigning, caring Mirror tradition, so, indeed, was its strong anti-Maggie front-page "Two Faces" leader on Tuesday. But both came too late to do Foot or Labour any good. One has sensed from the beginning of the election campaign that the Mirror's heart has not been in it. Clearly it believes what The Guardian had the courage to say on Tuesday: "The party for the working



class no longer speaks for its workers."

"Something eerie about this general election; something not quite real," said a Mail leader earlier this week. What's eerie about it is that unlike most elections, we all know or think we know, what the outcome of this one is going to be, thanks to the unprecedented number of polls that have been conducted. As a result newspapers are beginning to repeat themselves: "There's no stopping her now," read the Mail's banner headline on Monday. Yesterday, sounding tired and slightly bored, it announced "It's still Maggie by a mile."

The boredom factor has to be the reason for so much mud-slinging so late in the day, much criticized by the Times voters' panel this week. Like a crowd of soccer hooligans drifting home after a game, supporters of the losing team can't resist heaving the odd brick through shop windows, and the winners can't stop themselves jeering. I think we should all be grateful to the Prime Minister for not having prolonged the agony until June 23. The author was until recently editor of the Daily Express.



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RENEWAL

Decisive changes in history are generally attributed to external causes. In reality most changes in external circumstances arise as the culmination of a long process occurring gradually within the unconscious minds of individuals. Societies subscribe to a prevailing attitude to life which often dominates all conscious behaviour and thus takes much longer to change on the surface than underneath it. Today some 42 million people will be able to exercise their votes, as individuals. They will do so in the confessional privacy of a secret ballot. There will be no show of hands; no block vote bullying. The result will thus be the aggregate of millions of individual expressions of personal opinion. It will, in that sense, be the expression of a community's will as voiced by individuals acting on their own without external pressures. They have today an opportunity, as individuals, to signify one of those historic moments of change.

After four weeks of challenge and response, insult and argument, forecasts and recasts, lies and statistics, the voter is at last to be left to decide for himself. That is a decisive and priceless element in our democratic procedures. It means that, for all the quasi science of opinion polling and what might be called behavioural politics, the decision ultimately rests on genuine and individual choice. So should every decision, even an historic one, since in the last analysis the essential element of all history is not the passage of captains and kings, but the life of the individual.

Of course such a process has its risks. They are not the risks which political leaders might perceive: that such a society of individuals would produce unpredictable and unwelcome decisions. That does not happen in a healthy society, which is one able to reconcile its own collective needs with the requirement

to nourish and sustain each person's individualism. That healthiness comes about through a public and private capacity for self-criticism.

For the last three weeks we have seen and heard much discord. That discord is evidence of self-criticism both for the nation as a whole and for individuals. We can nationally profit from this kind of exposure, since the divisions within the body politic are probably reflected in each of us as witnesses or participants in the contest. That is as it should be. Our dislikes are normally concentrated on the things which, in reality, reveal to us our own imperfections. So it is with the nation. Fighting a general election among ourselves, therefore, is a much better way of seeing our own faults than of projecting them onto our neighbours or potential adversaries.

We should thus look upon a general election as an opportunity for renewal. While the argument has raged it has naturally focused on all the surface phenomena of political management; and of those none could be nearer the surface than the results of opinion polls. They have, in a strictly technical sense, preconditioned the nature of the debate. Consequently the Conservative policies have not really been tested, nor have they had to be since the polling suggested from the start that there was neither a credible nor a credible alternative government. Perhaps this meant that the press, television and even the opposition parties themselves progressively bowed to what appeared to be the inevitable.

It would be tempting to conclude from this that the opinion polls have somehow deadened the debate and that they could thus be blamed for a distorted result tomorrow. That would be a false argument. It is based on the fallacy that the choice of a new government, because it appears to be encapsu-

lated in a three week election campaign culminating in a vote, is not made by most people until three weeks before that vote. Superficially that may seem to be the case when the process of profound change is masked by the prevailing views and attitudes of a society which, like all societies, finds no pleasure in the spectacle of a new idea.

That idea, whose time has come - or come again - is not concerned with the details of economic policy, or unemployment, or nuclear weapons. It is not about these particulars, though the debate about them has helped to illuminate deeper attitudes nearer to the core of human nature. The idea is ultimately about the individual's responsibility for himself, and through this self-awareness his responsibility for his community.

At the heart of all the policies presented to us during the election campaign that philosophy is only discernable in practical application from the Conservatives, and only then on account of the fact that the Prime Minister - like her or loathe her - is an example of what an individual can achieve, both for herself and for the community, if she applies her own standards of values to the world about her.

That sense of individual responsibility must be restored more fully in public affairs, in the board room, in trade unions, in schools, in the council estates.

Then Britain would indeed profit from a truly profound renewal. New ideas are here, they are enemies of the old. They appear as a rule in an extremely unacceptable form to the old custodians of Britain's post-war decline wherever they are found. Of all Britain's political leaders today Mrs. Thatcher provides the most effective challenge to that decline. As Airey Neave said to her on the night she was elected to lead the Conservative Party: "Come, we have work to do". She has indeed.

THE GREENING OF BRITAIN

Buffeted and benumbed with manifestos, the public might feel entitled to hope that election eve should be left free to give time for quiet rumination over the clamour of recent weeks and preparation for its consummation today. But no such luck: yesterday had been marked down long before election day was named for the launch of the British response to the challenge on environmental strategy thrown out to the nations by the World Wildlife Fund in 1980. It is unfortunate for the manifesto, "Resourceful Britain", that its promoters were unable to wrench it aside from this collision with manifestoes of another kind.

It is of course the second ecological manifesto to come before the voter during the campaign. The Ecology Party may draw some late comfort, and even votes, from this voluminous endorsement of some of their policies. With a legitimate eye to the ruling preoccupation of national debate, the party stressed the aspects of its programme which held out hopes of new jobs - labour-intensive agriculture, land reclamation, renovation and insulation of homes, and capital investment in energy-efficient services. These prospects give an attractive and relevant aspect to a package of proposals that tend to be high-minded, narrow in appeal and

remote from the everyday - such as unilateralism, land nationalisation, world-wide birth-control promotions, and a line on animal rights which claims "uncompromising radicalism" while finding room for appeasement of the voter with rod and line.

"Resourceful Britain" agrees that there are jobs in environmentalism. But it is more thoughtful and less upbeat. It counts the cost: putting a price for instance of £34,000m on a ten-year programme of urban housing renewal. It points out that there are hardships as well as work opportunities in a programme of thrift and the forewearing of growth, and includes in its list of "Ideas whose time is up" the hope of return to full employment in conventional full-time jobs. The adaptations it sees us being required to come to terms with are: less easily digestible, more truly radical, than any party would willingly set out in an election manifesto. Being under no pressure to whistle to keep the voter's spirits up, it looks relatively coolly at the hopes and fears for a future extending far beyond the life of the next Parliament, and far beyond the sectional interests of a British electorate, or of Europe, or the West.

The meat of it is in the small print. The broader the brush with which policies in this field

are drawn, the easier it is to command assent, and vice versa. A glance at its list of summarised conclusions might lead the reader to think that its quangoistic origins had imposed a bland readiness to be all things to all men. We none of us oppose reducing pollution, after all, or "promoting resourceful urban enterprises". The question is how and at what cost in public spending and public intervention in private affairs. The report has a decided bent towards intervention, but at the same time stresses the importance of local and individual self-help in combating the apathy-inducing problems of urban and industrial decay.

It has firm and controversial strictures to make on specifics, like the official conduct of the Sizewell debate, the influence of the Common Agricultural Policy on the landscape and the loss of fertile land under concrete and tarmac. It insists on the dangers of insularity in our comparatively well-favoured corner of a world wasting its resources at an accelerating rate. It reaffirms in modern terms, and with a wealth of detail, the wisdom of Bacon's old maxim that the right way to rule nature is to do it by yielding to her. It would be a pity if so far-seeing a document failed to catch attention just because of an ephemeral national fluster about an election.

Compulsory insurance

From Mr Michael Harvey, QC
Sir, Mr David Hancock expresses the hope (June 3) that the next Parliament will address itself to devising a suitable scheme for compulsory public liability insurance.

I write, not to debate whether such a scheme should be introduced, but to comment that some measure of protection against the risk of the defendant being uninsured is already available.

Your readers will, of course, be aware that the average household's contents policy provides the policyholder and his family with public liability cover for many types of incident which occur away from the home. This should prevent them from becoming bankrupt defendants (for example, they are negligent in the circumstances described by your correspondent).

What, however, is to happen if they are themselves injured and the negligent defendant is uninsured? Help is given by some such policies which contain, as part of the insurance package, an extension providing insurance against unsatisfied judgments. Wordings may vary, but the general scheme is that if the policyholder or a member of his family is injured by a defendant who is unable to satisfy the judgment awarded against him (and the circumstances are such that the position of the plaintiff and the defendant been reversed the plaintiff would have been entitled to indemnity under the policy) the

policy-holder's own insurance company will pay the damages. This extension should therefore prevent the policyholder and his family from becoming uncompensated plaintiffs in the circumstances described by Mr Hancock.

Such extensions are included in the policies of several leading insurance companies and in my view go a long way towards avoiding at least one of the misfortunes referred to by your correspondent.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HARVEY,
2 Crown Office Row,
Temple, EC4A.
June 3

Hedge against loss

From Mr P. J. Angier
Sir, Not for the first time, it has been implied in your columns that the processes of hedge-laying and trimming are mutually exclusive (letter, June 3). This is not so.

A stockproof barrier is created from a hedge by laying it. The raw material for this is some years old which has grown away and cut through at ground level and pulled over to lie at an angle. It remains alive. New growth rises vertically and, by growing through the laid parts, forms a dense barrier after a year or two, all of which is living.

When this has been done the hedge can be trimmed to keep it in shape for many years, probably 20 at least, and it does not matter much

whether the trimming is done by hand or machine. In the end the hedge loses its structure, and should be left to grow away for a few years before starting the whole process again.

The hedge may have to be supplemented by wire immediately after laying, if the laying stage is left out. It is the omission of laying which produces gaps in a hedge, not the trimming.

Incidentally, it seems almost impossible to maintain a healthy hedge under mature hedgerow trees.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. ANGIER,
Yeoman's Farm,
Stour Row,
Shaftesbury,
Dorset.
June 3

Real tombstones

From Mr Christopher Stell
Sir, The Reverend Christopher Marshall's campaign for real tombstones (report, May 30) will be welcomed by all who have a feeling for the quality of our churchyard memorials. Perhaps he might be encouraged to extend his campaign to real churchyards with monuments no longer regimented or flattened and where James Harvey's Meditations may still be "among the Tombs" rather than pastures created by equally verdant improvers.

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER STELL,
The Athenaeum,
Fell Mail, SW1.

Profit and loss at the polls

From Lord Harlech and others

Sir, Now it is all over but the voting. Yet that is where a serious question arises. Predicting the result of a three-way contest in a first-past-the-post election is foolhardy, for the relationship between the parties' final share of votes and seats will be very distorted.

However, assuming the current opinion polls are approximately right, we venture three predictions. First, that a Conservative vote of around 45 per cent will be rewarded with a substantial overall majority of seats.

Second, that the remaining 55 per cent of votes will be rewarded with a minority of seats. Third, that within that minority, comparable votes for Labour and the Alliance will be rewarded in seats in a ratio of approximately 5-1.

The advantage given to one particular party on this occasion could well be reversed at the next election.

This is neither fair nor rational. It distorts the intention of the electorate in a way which damages democratic representation.

Surely this is the last election that should be held on the present ludicrously inequitable and outdated voting system.

Yours faithfully,
HARLECH, Chairman,
National Council for Electoral Reform,
EYERS,
NIGEL FISHER,
HOUGHTON OF SOWERBY
(Vice-Chairman),
CHRISTOPHER CHATAWAY
(Hon Treasurer),
SEAMUS BURKE
(Hon Secretary),
BURTON OF COVENTRY,
AUSTIN MITCHELL,
KATHARINE WHITEHORN,
National Council for Electoral Reform,
60 Chandos Place, WC2.

From Mr P. P. Roth

Sir, "Tomorrow is ours", declared Mrs Thatcher to a mixed youth rally in the Wembley Conference Centre on Saturday. She was clearly referring not simply to the result of the election but to her distinctive vision of a future Conservative Britain.

Is there not something profoundly alarming in the Conservatives' concerted efforts both to portray Labour as an extinct political force and, at the same time, to decry the attempt of the Alliance to establish a credible alternative?

There may, indeed, be nothing intrinsically undemocratic in a landslide majority. But in a system where the Government faces neither the check of an effective second Chamber nor the control of an entrenched Constitution, a massive majority for the party in government is inherently unhealthy.

It was Lord Hailsham who described the British political system as an "elective dictatorship". Presidential politics without either a separately elected Congress or the safeguard of the Supreme Court would be unthinkable in the United States.

The presidential-style politics that is foreshadowed by the Conservative election campaign, and which a landslide Conservative victory

would promote, is a dangerous portent for the political future of Britain.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. ROTH,
Gray's Inn Chambers,
Gray's Inn, WC1.

From Mr Peter Farr

Sir, Mrs Thatcher is right to point out that the only opinion poll which counts is that of the ballot box. David Butler (feature, June 7) points out truly that an election is about issues and not about predictions. Your leader on "Ultimate things" (May 12) reminded us of the gravity of the issues.

Should the third of Mr Butler's scenarios of absurdity come to pass, and should the views of nearly one third of the voters be represented in the House by less than one twentieth of the members, may we hope that the incoming administration will give due weight to the seriousness with which this submerged third have approached the major issues of our time?

Yours faithfully,
PETER FARR,
1 Beechey Lees Road,
Kensington,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
June 7

From the Reverend J. R. Hopcraft

Sir, British general elections, are parliamentary elections, not leadership elections. Between 1974 and 1979 all three major parties changed their leaders without consulting the electorate.

It is wrong for parties to glorify their leaders as though the voters were actually going to vote for them. The only votes for Thatcher, Foot, Steel or Jenkins will be cast in their own constituencies.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN HOPCRAFT,
The Vicarage,
Blyton,
Gainsborough,
Lincolnshire.
June 7

From Lord Shawcross, QC

Sir, PHS, in his amusing comment (May 31), has however not got it quite right. I have not turned full circle. In my recent speech I said that I was in fact the original SDP, having left the Labour Party over 20 years ago, believing that it would be taken over by the extreme left wing and believing that electoral reform and an elected second Chamber were the only safe insurance against political extremes.

I said that a Labour victory at this election would be an irreversible disaster for the country and I hoped that the Conservatives would win. But I also urged the large moderate but mainly silent element in the Labour Party to vote for and then join the SDP, so that after the election that party would become the effective opposition, leaving the Marxists, Trotskyists, Workers' Revolutionaries etc out on a limb. Thus we could return to the old Whig/Tory tradition of Britain's greater days.

Meanwhile I remain - and suspect I always was - a Whig.
Yours sincerely,
HARTLEY SHAWCROSS,
House of Lords,
June 2

Military degree

From Mr Duncan H. Robinson

Sir, The Duke of Edinburgh (report, June 3) is not the first Prince Consort to take up the idea of a military degree: it was a subject considered by Prince Albert 120 years ago!

In two papers written in April, 1861, Lt-Col James Baker, then commanding the Cambridge University OTC, advocated a military degree at the universities, with "an examination for honours in military science." The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge wrote to the Secretary for War on May 6, 1861, commending the papers for further consideration.

The subject of the education of officer candidates was something which greatly interested Prince Albert and he had corresponded with both the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and the Secretary for

War on this subject during the period 1857 to 1861. Baker's papers were read by the Prince and Baker was called to Windsor to explain his ideas more fully.

As a result, the Prince took up the idea of a military degree and it has been suggested that such a degree would have been instituted under his patronage had it not been for the Prince's premature death in December, 1861.

Had the Prince's support Baker's project was lost, although by 1863 the scheme of issuing certificates of exemption for officer candidates with university degrees had been instituted; thus, a university degree admitted to the Army without further examination.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN H. ROBINSON,
The Orchard Cottage,
Hawthurst,
Kent.
June 4

Where orchids flourish

From Dr A. S. Thomas

Sir, Botanists will be delighted that the Nature Conservancy is taking steps to protect some of our less common orchids (report, May 19). But it must be remembered that rabbits are a greater menace to these beautiful and interesting plants than are humans.

When feral rabbits were virtually eliminated by myxomatosis in the 1950s, there was a spectacular increase in orchids, which appeared in places where they had not been seen for many years and at that time twelve distinct species, some in great abundance, were growing on the Old Winchester Hill national nature reserve. But when feral rabbits were allowed to increase, most of the orchids disappeared. If only the sale of wild rabbit meat and skins had

been forbidden, as in New Zealand, many of our less common plants would have increased, as in New Zealand.

The orchids, the cowslips and other desirable plants of our chalk downs are concentrated on the hard layers of the chalk. If one species of orchid grows at a certain place, then other species are likely to grow there, a fact which indicates that soil factors influence the soil fungi on which the orchids depend.

Our farm crops have gained vigour through the correction of soil deficiencies; it is highly desirable that soil deficiencies should be corrected for the benefit of our more desirable wild plants.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR THOMAS,
Goodings,
Sloe Lane,
Afriston,
East Sussex.

Volcanoes and weather

From Dr Basil Gomez

Sir, In answer to Dr and Mrs Richard Ward's query (June 3) concerning the existence of meteorological records of weather conditions prevailing in western Europe immediately after 1824, I should like to point out that the Radcliffe Meteorological Station, Oxford, has maintained a continuous meteorological record since 1815.

Yours faithfully,
BASIL GOMEZ,
Radcliffe Meteorological Observer,
Jesus College,
Oxford.
June 3

View from No 10

From Mrs C. J. H. Wright

Sir, Sir Fife Clark, in his recollections of the arrangements for the television of the Coronation, has said, in your paper (report, May 30) and on the BBC *Play* programme, that at the time there was no television set at 10 Downing Street.

I can assure him that, at least on Coronation Day itself, there certainly was. Thirty years ago today I, as a child of five, watched the ceremony on it.

Yours faithfully,
CATHERINE WRIGHT,
Coulcroft, High Street,
High Shindcliffe, Durham.
June 2

Moral priorities on nuclear defence

From the Bishop of Winchester

Sir, I am grateful to Professor John H. Humphrey and others (June 3) for their forthright declaration that the question of Britain's defence policy transcends all other issues in this election and ought to transcend party politics. For as long as it is argued as a choice between several strategic options the more confused and inconclusive that argument will become.

If we were to clarify our moral priorities - what we are ethically obliged to try to achieve above all else - this would limit the strategic options to which we might give the support of our vote. Guidance of any sort, but especially the guidance of God, works by reducing the options.

The churches have already identified the moral priorities far more clearly and consistently than is commonly supposed. The pastoral letter signed by most of the Roman Catholic bishops in the USA in May agrees point by point with the resolutions passed by a large majority in the General Synod of the Church of England in February. If it matters that public opinion in Britain and America should stand shoulder to shoulder, this consensus of the largest church bodies in our two countries must command attention, especially since other churches have recently recorded very similar guidelines.

1. A nation has a moral right and duty to defend its citizens against aggression by force of arms if necessary, provided the means used are not disproportionate to what is actually required to defeat the attack.

2. Any wholesale, indiscriminate attack against non-combatants is an absolute wrong that can never be justified even in retaliation.

This classical Christian teaching is neither recent nor trendy. Frequently disregarded in practice, it has been universally sustained in theory until the 1930s. The decline in which the Western nations have acquiesced since then cannot abrogate the former standard and the churches are merely reaffirming it.

It follows that only strategic options to which a Christian may in good conscience give the support of a vote are those that will make a wholesale attack from any quarter upon a civilian population in any place totally improbable. But we must stick to that objective and allow no one to substitute another by political sleight of hand.

Some may be convinced that this objective can be achieved by a

unilateral withdrawal of nuclear missiles either possessed by us or deployed in our territory. They will have to show good reasons for believing that this will make it less likely that such attacks will be launched upon civilians anywhere and from any quarter.

By making it our primary objective to render any major attack on a civilian population totally improbable we shall have advanced a sound case for the nuclear deterrent. But if we remain true to the logic of deterrence we must hold fast to the fact that the more automatic and inflexible the boom-rang response, the more it will deter everyone from ever contemplating such a wholesale attack.

But now comes the sleight of hand. Those who argue for flexible response with tactical nuclear warheads have taken as their objective, not the prevention of attacks upon civilian targets, but superiority on the battlefield. That is a very different aim, raising very different moral questions.

Those who favour the theatre nuclear warheads like to claim that they will successfully limit the attack to military targets and so achieve the original objective of avoiding all-out nuclear war. That might be true if no other nuclear weapons existed. But they do. Battlefield superiority could be won through nuclear warheads only by exposing the civilian populations to such a double risk of fall-out and of escalation to more devastating weapons as to make it a morally unacceptable option which brings me to the third guideline on which the churches are agreed.

3. There are no circumstances that would justify the first use of any nuclear warhead of whatever size or style.

At the General Synod of the Church of England, at the bishops' meeting of the Roman Catholic Church in the USA and in other recent Christian assemblies, the churches have done what the politicians are always asking them to do - they have kept clear of tactics and policies and have stuck to spiritual and moral principles. They have spoken plainly, and with an unusual degree of unity.

Let those who profess to care about right and wrong cast their votes on this overriding issue in the light of these guidelines.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN WINTON,
Winchester.
June 5

On remand in London

From Mr S. P. B. Sheridan

Sir, Today at Hendon Magistrates' Court I represented a defendant charged with criminal offences, he having been on remand in custody for several months, awaiting commitment to the crown court, which should occur at the end of June.

Following the usual procedure for custody cases, he appears before the magistrates each week and is then remanded into custody. Normally he would go to a remand prison, probably Brixton, in London. However, because of the shortage of space in prisons, like many others, he is being kept at various police stations, which are ill-equipped to deal with situations such as this. The facilities or, more appropriately, the lack of such vary from station to station.

Did my client reach a trough over the last eight days - having been detained at Highbury Vale police

station, where he shared a small cell for the whole eight-day remand period with a co-defendant, the cell containing an open lavatory with no internal privacy whatsoever and being so hot and devoid of fresh air that they were only their underpants during this time?

My client tells me, and I have no reason to doubt him, that during this last remand period, he and his co-defendant were allowed exercise on only three occasions, two of these for a duration of about five minutes, when they were allowed to walk around the charge room, and only once were they allowed fresh air and that was in the station yard for about 10 minutes.

Surely, these cannot be conditions that a civilised society can tolerate?

Yours faithfully,
SHANE SHERIDAN,
4 Brick Court,
Temple.
May 31

Rampant rape

From Mr Philip Oliver

Sir, Re your leader in *The Times* of May 30, "Rape of the countryside", as you say in your last paragraph the crop is much favoured by the bee and honey bees will at times travel four to five miles to it. Unfortunately, however, the bee suffers from what you call this pestidial mania and sometimes very severely as growers, panicked perhaps by the forecasts of doom and disaster from the representatives of some of the chemical giants, anoint the flowering crop with some form of organophosphorus and this in spite of the assertions of eminent agricultural and entomological advisers that it is hardly ever necessary to treat autumn-sown crops of oilseed rape (ie, those in flower now) with insecticides.

Only after visiting fields so treated, where there is neither sight or sound of fly, bee or butterfly, does one realise the damage being done to the environment of which our piles of dead bees are just a symptom.

I understand that many countries in Europe, Sweden, Denmark, France, etc, have very strict controls over the use of insecticides especially on crops in flower. I think we should try and safeguard our environment by having similar legislation here.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP OLIVER,
Rylands,
Upton Bishop,
Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire.
May 31

Wayward water

From Dr Magnus Pyke

Sir, Professor John Lourie (May 30) is mistaken in his belief that his observation of water running clockwise down one plug-hole and anticlockwise down another in his house in Port Moresby implies that the conclusion that the Coriolis forces influence the direction of the vortices in the northern and the southern hemispheres is a myth. He has merely demonstrated that a kitchen sink is an unsatisfactory measuring instrument with which to detect, at 11° south, so subtle a phenomenon.

The classical research on bathwater was done by Professor Ascher Shapiro, head of the department of mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1962 (*Nature*, 196, 1080, 1962). When proper precautions were taken to use an exactly circular vessel with a circular plug-hole, to ensure that the water was clean, at a uniform temperature and quite still before the experiment was carried out, the results predicted by theory were obtained.

Professor Lourie may perhaps be forgiven for his scepticism. Others before him have been reluctant to accept that cosmic forces could be affecting so personal an activity as washing or taking a bath. Two years after Professor Shapiro published his researches, Dr A. M. Binnie, FRS, repeated the work at the engineering laboratories at Cambridge (*J. Mech. Eng. Sci.* vi, 256, 1964) - using a differently proportioned tank - and obtained the same results, provided he used cleaner water than that provided by the Cambridge town main.

Perhaps predictably, this did not satisfy scientists in Australia until Trefethen, Bilger, Fink and Luxton, at the University of Sydney, showed (*Nature*, 207, 1084, 1965) that water did go round the other way in their hemisphere.

Yours faithfully,
MAGNUS PYKE,
3 St Peter's Villas, W6.
May 30

The new Strada II Energy Saver, saving energy fast.



The Strada II Energy Saver is anything but an ordinary 'economy model'.

Fiat have channelled technology into creating a more efficient car without compromising on performance.

The ES uses Digiplex electronic ignition to optimise the ignition curve. (You'll find the same system on Ferraris.)

Its aerodynamic shape is distinguished by flush profile wheels, wind deflectors and a rear spoiler, which combine to give a significantly better drag coefficient.

With its higher compression, electronic fuel cut-off and vertical dual-barrel carburettor, the Energy Saver gives 56.5mpg at a constant 56mph. And 38.2mpg on the urban cycle.

On the new fascia, the driver finds a computerised Econometer, showing the fuel consumption at any moment, and the best time to change gear.

But the ES is not designed to be miserly at the expense of excitement.

The beauty is, it still has all the acceleration and responsive handling of the Strada.

And like all Strada II models, it takes numerous other steps to improve both economy and performance.

Aerodynamic refinements such as the 'airflow' radiator grille and smooth bonnet reduce drag by 10% across the range.

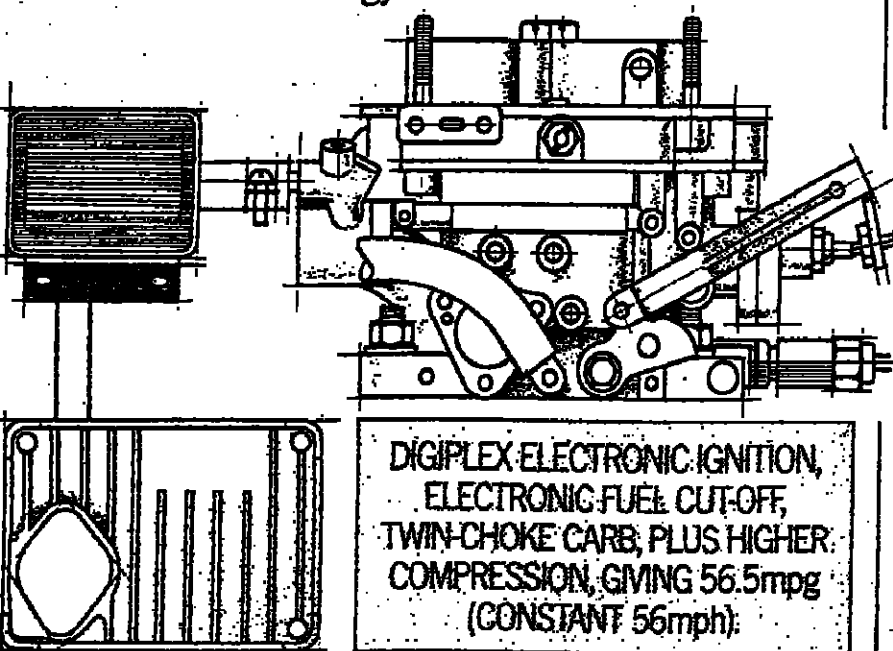
The Strada II applies new technology to reduce unnecessary weight.

The wheels are made of special steel alloy, the radiator of aluminium. Even the battery is 40% lighter.

The front-wheel drive, overhead-cam engine and 5-speed* gearbox have been considerably improved in efficiency, with greater torque at low revs.

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THE ARTS

Ronald Hayman on the prolific Paris stage

Brook's touching conviction

For Englishmen like me who alternate gaudily between overblown and underblown theatres in Paris, it is a relief to arrive at such theatres as the renovated Théâtre de l'Est and Peter Brook's Bouffes du Nord, where there are no reserved seats and therefore no usherettes. The disadvantage is that Paris audiences tend to arrive early if the show is popular; an hour before the lights were due to go up on Brook's *La Cerise* (*The Cherry Orchard*), nearly all the seats in the centre aisle of the stalls had already been claimed.

His production is very much a family affair, with his wife, Natasha Parry, as Mme Ranevskaya, Irina Brook as Anya and several of the actors from the group which has been working with him in Paris. This is an advantage. The play is more about a group than about individuals, and in this production, although none of the individual performances is outstandingly good, except Guy Tréjan's Gaev and Joseph Blatchley's Trofimov, the group as a whole comes more vividly and movingly to life than it usually does. I have never seen a *Cherry Orchard* in which people touch each other and play jokes on each other more convincingly or more expressively.

The theatrical experience to be had at the Théâtre de l'Est is a strange and exciting one: *La Candide* (*Emilia*) is an adaptation by Miguel Torres of Gabriel García Márquez's 40-page story *The Incredible and Sad Tale of Innocent Eréndira and Her Heartless Grandmother*. Like the story, the

production by the Argentinian director, Augusto Boal, combines charming simplicity with bizarre ferocity.

The beautiful Marina Vlady, sister of Odile Versois and star of Godard's *Deux ou trois choses que je sais d'elle*, wears flexible padding moulded like a fat female body so that the performance can begin exactly as the story does, with the 14-year-old girl bathing her formidable grandmother, who looks "like a handsome whale... naked and huge in the marble tub".

When Eréndira accidentally sets fire to the house, the diabolical old woman decides that the child owes her 872,315 pesos, which must be realized through her only asset, her young body. On the circus-like stage, with a busy score of Latin-American music, the production carries us engagingly through a series of adventures involving smugglers, soldiers, nuns, prostitutes, Indians, a magician, a politician and finally a murder, when Ulises, the most romantic of Eréndira's lovers, meets the almost unkillable old lady. An unpleasant green viscous fluid oozes from Marina Vlady's padding.

Delphine Seyrig and Georges Wilson are still packing the Théâtre de l'Oeuvre with *Sarah et le cri de la langouste*, the play about Sarah Bernhardt by John Murrell. Originally called *Memoir*, it was produced at the Ontario Festival in 1977 and seen briefly in London with Siobhán McKenna as Bernhardt. Another star actress, Marthe Keller, is to be seen with Pierre Arditi in *Andréas*

Voutsinas's production of *Les Exilés* by James Joyce at the Théâtre du Rond Point.

At the Théâtre de la Madeleine a major attempt is being made to restore André Roussin's work to fashion. He had a tremendous international success at the beginning of the Fifties with his 1947 play *The Little Hut*, which Peter Brook directed in London and New York.

In Paris Roussin's 1955 comedy *L'Amour fou* has just opened with a company led by Simone Valère and Jean Desailly. The idiosyncratic comedian Claude Pieplu is having a success at the Théâtre Saint-Georges with his own production of a two-acter called *Six heures au plus tard* by Marc Perrier. The set and the premise for the plot are absurd - a car has crashed through the wall of a cottage, causing no damage to the driver, the bonnet or the man who was asleep in the bed underneath the hole now filled with the protruding car. But the relationship between the driver, a gangster and the eccentric cottage-owner is amusingly developed.

At the Athénée Jean-Claude Drouot is starring in his own production of Dumas's *Keen*, revived in Sartre's adaptation with Sophie Deschamps. At the Comédie Française there is a new Molière double bill consisting of *Amphitryon* and *Le Médecin volant* (*The Flying Doctor*), both directed by Philippe Adrien. Racine's *Andromaque* is being revived with Geneviève Casile in the part.

Television
Outrage too easy

Mary Whitehouse recently launched an attack upon Broadside (Channel 4) because it was dealing with a subject which displeased her, that of "video nasties" - cassette films of a violent or obscene nature. The fact this was a restrained and quite unsensational criticism of such films seems to have escaped her notice; but, then, moral outrage is notoriously difficult to employ in a useful manner. The makers of last night's programme concentrated upon the level of violence towards women exhibited by such films: it is clearly and unpleasantly there, but video films of this kind are only the most egregious examples of a tendency which exists in any number of contemporary films: *Octopussy* and *Psycho 2*, for example. It seems illogical, and counter-productive, to ban one and permit the other.

Since the programme was concerned with this problem of censorship, it raised more questions than it was able to solve. If the spectacle of violence is debilitating or damaging, would the censor still allow the depiction of real violence? As one stockist of such films suggested, there is as much gruesome detail in a cassette on the Falklands War as there is in *Driller Killer* or *Dead and Buried*. Is there at work here an atrophied puritanism that finds fiction more reprehensible than fact?

Peter Ackroyd



La Candide Eréndira: Marina Vlady as the "handsome whale" of a grandmother, and Catherine Benamou in the title role

Concert

RPO/Weller
Festival Hall

There were unusual sonorities in Tuesday's *Leonora* No 3 on Tuesday night. But it was not so much the occasional imprecisions of the horns that caught the ear, nor the sometimes strident on-stage trumpets; rather was it the cello occupying the place of the second bassoon. Presumably an expedient rather than a deliberate experiment, it sounded distinctly odd, since passages which normally offer mere support were given undue prominence, even though the cellist was playing down when exposed. Still, it made a change.

So too did the fresh, exhilarating performance of Bruch's G minor Violin Concerto. It was given by the Taiwanese violinist Cho-Liang Lin, who made his debut here in 1981 after winning first prize in the 1978 Queen Sofia International Competition in Madrid. Still only 23, he is gifted with a remarkable technique; and the tone, though not exactly sweet,

is ample and firmly projected. I thought, when he launched into his evenly-paced, somewhat unharmonious cadenza in the sixth bar, that this was going to be an unyielding interpretation, but in fact it broadened out to one of tasteful rubato and romantic, fiery gestures in the two outer movements, with some finely controlled lines and sensitively shaped figuration in the Adagio.

The orchestra offered robust accompaniment, but came into their own in Vaughan Williams's Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis and in Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. In the Fantasia the strings caught all the ingenuity and opulence of the complex writing. The Beethoven, on the other hand, showed them at their most muscular, with gloriously blazing brass and some good growling double basses in the finale. Mr Weller's was a fairly brisk reading, though structured and with the moments of climax prepared with a sure touch.

Geoffrey Norris

Theatre

Hawaiian Cheese
Party
Arts, Cambridge

It goes without saying that, whatever the topics of the century, Footlights revue, there will be no self-congratulatory round-up of the hoary juveniles who have somehow managed to keep the club in business and revitalize comedy at large. But, with accolades flowing thick and fast over the past few weeks, it is surprising to find the heirs of Jack Buchanan and Peter Cook celebrating their anniversary with a show as relaxed and professionally disinterested as this.

Nothing in it has anything to do with any Hawaiian cheese party, and the only discernible line that runs through the show is a keen eye for subjects that have raised a laugh in the past: advertising men, Shakespearean clowns, politically committed folk singers, fox-hunters and crusty old clubland buffers.

In revisiting this familiar territory the company of six have one great strength on their side. They do not dance, and their singing is not up to much, but they do excel in pantomime. Again and again, when a sketch might have died en route to its feeble punchline, it is rescued by the precise physical absurdities that Robert Harley and Neil Mullarkey bring to it as posturing robots or silent comics brutally hauled into the world of speech.

There are some glancing references to the Cambridge past, as in one chunk of mock-medieval featuring a villainous Norman lord of the manor distributing poisoned cheese to all points of the compass. But even here, what counts most is the resistance of a dancing bishop. And in sketches on Bond films and the Arthurian legends the laughs depend mainly on the choreography of Nicholas Symons's production.

Among the company, the strongest personalities are Morwenna Banks, who slips easily up and down the class scale with no loss of context, and Mr Harley, who gets the evening off to a good start with a game of "Hangman" which, to his rage, the audience wins hands down. Some telling points are made at the expense of a pair of CND singers who nearly come to blows. But, as for gags, the only one I shall remember is the telephone call made by a man whose finger got stuck in the dial.

Irving Wardle

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Faust
Covent Garden

Covent Garden has a habit of running into form during the last part of the season. It did not work that way last year, but this time the old, rugged pattern is beginning to re-emerge. After an astutely cast *Don Giovanni* ten days ago the Royal Opera House has come up with a *Faust* containing the best all-round team of principals heard so far in this production.

At the helm, as when the

opera was last revived, is Alfredo Kraus in the title role. Kraus sheds his years as easily as Faust himself. The only difference between the two is that Kraus does not pay the supreme penalty, he just goes on singing. And what singing it is. The voice is as crystalline now as it was twenty years ago; it is the servant of its master and Kraus, ever the careful master, knows just how much productivity to demand. His handling of the Act III duet "O nuit d'amour" was a model to be studied by anyone who cares for the art of French singing.



Gino Quilico: outstanding debut as Faust

Tannhäuser
Barbican

The Barbican is not, perhaps, the most auspicious of sites for Venusberg, but, fearless of either the setting or the scale of their undertaking, the Chelsea Opera Orchestra and Chorus set out with *Tannhäuser* on their Wagnerian pilgrimage on Tuesday night.

There was nothing *avant* about this thoroughgoing concert performance, whose only compromise was to adopt, happily, the shorter Dresden version. Venus sat bolt upright in black taffeta and frills, the knightly minstrels stood in tail-coated line, and Tannhäuser and Elisabeth addressed their words of love to the audience alone. To add to the hubris of the enterprise, the work was sung in German so that, despite excellent programme notes and synopsis, the last chances for

total apprehension rather than mere comprehension faded fast. The fact that, with all the odds against it, the evening swung round from failure to qualified success was due in large part to the enthusiasm of the performers and to the conducting of James Judd. Adopting a frenzied approach which in many ways would be totally unacceptable in the pit, Mr Judd saved many an expiring choral line, many a bar of tottering orchestral ensemble, by the sheer momentum with which he not only built climax upon climax (the end-of-act ensembles were particularly powerful) but kept things at simmering point all the way through.

His characteristic ability to whip up a true performance from whatever forces he has at hand was matched by the slick professionalism of Connell Byrne's Tannhäuser: a mellifluous, full-bodied natural voice, growing in character later rather

than never, and valuable above all for its ability to find just the right dynamic level within each ensemble.

He was partnered by a pure, carefully integrated soprano in Mary Lloyd-Davies's Elisabeth who more than anyone filled recitative as well as set-piece with mobile expressive detail. What Ludmilla Andrew's Venus lacked in sensuousness she made up in sheer dramatic energy, a quality shared by David Hillman's Walther von der Vogelweide, Ian Comboy's Landgrave and Stuart Harting's Wolfram were well-balanced and both consistently thoughtful.

The orchestra struggled less often and less obviously than the chorus, and the sheer commitment of the corporate enterprise was every bit as responsible as Mr Judd's tempi for ensuring that the long evening sped on its way.

Hilary Finch

Dance

Indeterminate impression

Ballet Gulbenkian
Sadler's Wells

Antonio, the hero of Louis Falco's *Reunion in Portugal*, apparently dies, as the ballet begins, of a heart attack brought on by rich living. The rest of the time is devoted to the dead man's attempts to clear his room, his bed or his dreams of the wife, parents, sister, lover, confessor and sundry other persons who immediately begin to clutter them. Finally they are reconciled.

At least, I think that is probably what was happening although I could not safely identify all the characters from the cast list, nor do I know whether it was meant to be funny. Nobody laughed, anyway. The music is by Kurt Weill, from *The Threepenny Opera*.

This was the last work in the opening programme of Ballet Gulbenkian's week at Sadler's

Wells, and the indeterminacy was by then well established. Two of the other works given were by the company's resident choreographer, Vasco Wellenkamp. He trained a group of attractive, well trained though oddly assorted dancers wearing sleek fleshings and performing very well some extremely vague movements in "atmospheric" (ie. gloomy) lighting.

One of Wellenkamp's pieces, *Dances for a Guitar*, celebrates the company's Lisbon home by being set to music by Carlos Paredes, actually for two of those instruments, an ordinary one and a so-called Portuguese guitar. The composer's programme note tells us that it was invented in England two centuries ago but now survives mainly in the *fado* music of Portuguese light entertainment. The score is likeable sweet-sour stuff that would serve nicely to dance to. Oddly, the choreography never once shows the slightest relationship to it that I could discover.

The other work by Wellenkamp, *Before Dawn*, is accompanied by George Crumb's *Voices of the Whale*. A tall, gaunt man performs it with a group of ten women, one of whom for no particular reason leaves the others to join him in a duet. They all seemed to suffer a lot, but perhaps that was my imagination.

The only work seen here before was Lar Lubovitch's duet *The Time Before the Time After*, to short pieces by Stravinsky for string quartet. It was made for Martino Parmian and James Urban of Ballet Theatre Contemporain, who danced it, in plain lights, with searing erotic intensity, as a couple unable to be happy together or apart. Gulbenkian's cast (Isabel Queiroz in a slip, José Grave in pyjama trousers) dress more sexily but dance much less so. Without any conviction or passion the work loses its point.

John Percival

phesless heard so far in this production. He is right in the traditional East European approach to the part, which is one of the best moulds going. The model is Christoff right down to Christoff's eccentric handling of the French language, a Mephistopheles flamboyant, extrovert and egocentric. And why not? Mephistopheles spends much of the opera drawing attention to himself: "Me voilà... me voici". Nesterenko's voice is formidably flexible, cajoling and snarling at will.

Gino Quilico, a young baritone whose progress has been noted on this page, was an outstanding Valentin on his Covent Garden debut; it is not easy to erase memories of Thomas Allen in this role, but Quilico was out to prove that there is more than one man in the field. And he did so. The only disappointment came from

Sally Burgess, also on her Opera House debut, who came to no sort of terms with Siebel. Heather Begg repeated her fruity Marthe.

The Covent Garden chorus improved on their recent poor showing, especially in Act IV. Charles Dutoit yet another house debut - was the refined conductor, taking the sensuous fragrances of the third act very slowly and paying constant attention to the needs of his soloists. He is clearly a fine accompanist, but he should impress his own personality more. John Copley, with a little help from the passing years, has mellowed his original production. It is sure-footed up to the end of Act III but, hindered by the substantial cuts imposed on the opera thereafter, still manages to lose its way when Faust and Marguerite are tugged apart.

John Higgins

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production (May).

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Canada \$	2.90	1.92
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Finland Mk	9.14	8.64
France Fr	12.53	12.00
Germany DM	4.21	4.00
Greece Dr	136.50	128.50
Hongkong \$	12.25	11.60
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FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Britain's financial markets
have been buoyant in antici-
pation of a Conservative victory
at the polls. Will the
prospect of lower inflation and
interest rates keep the pound
strong and Government stocks
booming or will it all prove a
three week wonder?

Investors Notebook page 23:
● Biotechnology is back in
favour in North America, where
leading shares have more than
doubled in 12 months. Here in
Britain, there are growing signs
of interest but the Government
is having to bend its philosophy
and take a hand to get things
moving. Clive Cookson reports.

Feature page 22:
● Right up to the Williams-
burg summit, EEC countries
have been raising protectionist
barriers, so that a Common
Automobile Policy, followed by
a Common Industry Policy
could creep up by stealth.
Graham Seargeant argues that
this will be a boon for Britain's
interests.

Economic Notebook page 22:
● DECLINED: Safeway, the
US supermarket group, yester-
day declined to make what
would have been the seventh
offer for Key Markets stores
chain.

Directors of parent company
Fitch Lovell are recommending
shareholders to approve the sale
of Linford.

WALL STREET

Dow slips
in heavy
trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones)-
Stocks recovered from early
losses in heavy trading yesterday.
The Dow Jones Industrial
Average fell three points to
1,191. The initial fall in stocks
trimmed the index by nearly
eight points before settling in.
But declines still lead gainers
by more than two-to-three.
Volume was about 28 million
shares.

General Electric fell 1/2 to 55;
General Motors fell 1/2 to 68 1/2;
Merck fell 1/2 to 83 1/2; American
Telephone and Telegraph fell 1/2
to 63 1/2; Eastman Kodak fell 1/2
to 72 1/2; Val rose 1/2 to 37 1/2;
Plessey rose 2 1/2 to 2 1/2; Union
Carbide fell 1 1/2 to 67 1/2; and
Southern Pacific fell 1/2 to 68 1/2.

International Business
Machines at 113 1/2 was up 1/2;
Commodore International at
110 1/2 was up 3/4; Teledyne at
161 was up 2 1/2; Texas Instru-
ments at 163 1/2 was down 1/2;
Colson at 56 1/2 was up 1/2;
Sanders Associates at 100 was
off 1 1/2; Cincinnati Milacron at
35 1/2 was down 1/2; and Lock-
heed at 117 was up 1/2.

Cashmen Industries fell 2 1/2 to
56. Yesterday it gained 2 1/2 after
trading as high as 59 1/2, and the
company attributed the rise to a
favourable recommendation.
Mr Larry Wachtel, first vice
president-research at Pruden-
tial-Bache Securities, said:
"Today's opening drop was pre-
ceded by yesterday's close."
"Now it's a question of
whether the 1,180 support level
holds or if we'll see a further
drop that would mean a full
correction."

"The Bond market has
tightened ahead of the Fed" he
said. But a "looming and bigger
problem is the beginning of a
second crisis wave in the
international debt picture".

Recovery
hopes at
Unctad

From Debra Trevisan
Belgrade

M. Jacques de Larosiere,
managing director of the Inter-
national Monetary Fund, yester-
day introduced an optimistic
note at the plenary session of
the United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development,
when he said that the world
economy was now at the
threshold of recovery.

He reminded all the partici-
pants that the essential thing for
them was to see that the initial
gains were not frittered away in
a new wave of inflation.

Firm and resolute adherence
to the strategy designed to foster
non-inflationary recovery was
necessary and the only ap-
proach to revitalize the econ-
omy was to get the growth and
development going again, he
said.

Earlier, Mr Roy Williams,
under secretary in the Depart-
ment of Trade, injected a new
idea into the proceedings largely
devoted to aid to the developing
world by putting the emphasis
on private investments. He
urged the conference to pay due
attention to creating an atmo-
sphere which would encourage
private investors.

Mr Williams said that Britain
was making efforts to encourage
private companies investing in
the Third World but this also
required effort of developing
countries to provide a climate
in which foreign investors could
have confidence.

On the question of the
division between the industrial-
ized nations and the Third
World, the Western view at the
conference is that the existing
international institutions are
capable of overcoming the
present crisis and dealing with
the problems besetting the
developing world. The Soviet
block has not shown to be
particularly involved in the
search for concrete solutions.

● Brazilian ministers are still
debating the conditions on
which they should accept
assistance from the Inter-
national Monetary Fund. An-
nouncement of the terms, which
are expected to include cuts in
subsidies, some price increases,
and de-indexing wages, has
been delayed.

Managements to meet after £660m takeover victory
BTR attacks insurance groups for
backing Tilling board

By Our Financial Staff

Sir Patrick Meaney, Thomas
Tilling's chief executive, will meet his
bankers this morning to decide whether
to recommend the £660m takeover bid
from BTR, which went unconditional
yesterday afternoon.

Later today, he will talk to Mr David
Nicholson, BTR chairman, and Mr
Owen Green, its chief executive. It will
be the first meeting of the two
managements since BTR launched
Britain's biggest takeover.

BTR won control of the industrial
holding company with acceptances for
58 per cent of the shares. But it will
need acceptances for at least a further
32 per cent before it can begin
implementing and reorganizing the clutch
of Tilling businesses.

Morgan Grenfell, BTR's bankers, said
last night that the bid could have gone
either way. Suggestions that the
Prudential Corporation, the influential
institutional investor, was prepared to
reject the offer and give the Tilling

management a second chance, proved
to have little effect.

Yesterday afternoon BTR accused
the insurance companies of abrogating
their responsibilities by sticking with
the existing management principle.

According to a BTR spokesman,
only two big insurance companies were
included in the acceptances BTR's
main support, apart from the 28.5 per
cent it bought for itself in the market.
Mr James Findlay, Prudential

investment manager, confirmed that it
did not accept the bid with its 2 1/2 per
cent.

Last night investors were rushing to
buy Tilling shares, sending the price up
11p to 237p. That is about 6p below the
value placed on them under the terms of
the BTR 11-for-20 share swap as BTR
shares surged 14p to 44p by the close.
Combined sales of the two groups
will approach £3bn. Last year BTR's
pre-tax profits were £108.7m while
Tilling made £43.7m.



Losers Meaney: prophetic message

To the manor born

If 'manors' maketh the man,
then they certainly say a lot
about the stylish last of Sir
Patrick Meaney, Crewe House,
in Curzon Street, the stately
18th century home from which
he has run Tilling's for the past
decade is such a joy to him that
it always figures on the covers
of his annual reports.

He joined Tilling in 1961,
became managing director, and is
also a director of Cable &
Wireless, Rank and Midland
Bank.

Cornhill
'not
for sale'

Cornhill Insurance, which
Thomas Tilling had said it
would sell for at least £150m,
will not be disposed of, BTR
said shortly after gaining
control of Tilling.

Allianz Versicherungs, the
German insurance group, had
earlier in the day said that it
was interested in buying Corn-
hill. Tilling had indicated that
the Munich-based group was
one of four front runners being
considered as a possible
purchaser for Cornhill.

However, a spokesman for
Allianz denied comments attrib-
uted to the company's finance
director, Herr Marcus Bierich,
that it would sell its 29 per cent
stake in Eagle Star.

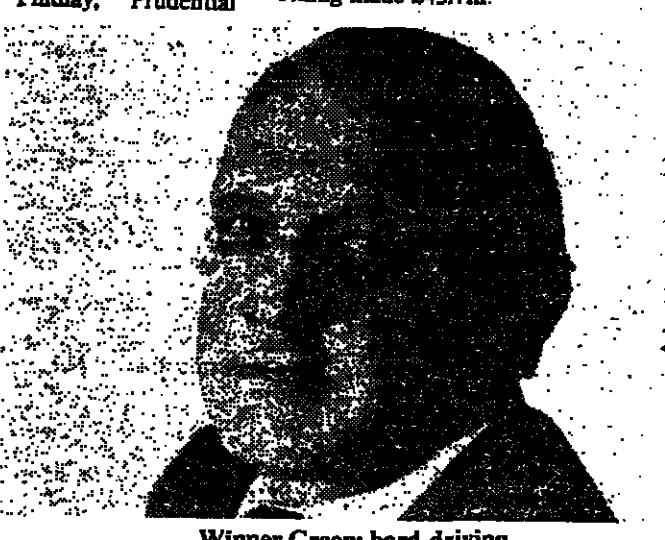
"His comments have been
misinterpreted," the company
said. "We have no present
intention of selling our stake in
Eagle Star. The purchase of
Cornhill is still only a possi-
bility."

Market sources said that
BTR may at a later date carry
through Tilling's plan to sell off
Cornhill despite yesterday's
announcement.

Winner Green: hard-driving
Spartan at the top

Silvertown House faces the
world from Vincent Square,
London, SW1, with 14 windows
that are boringly square and six
white columns at the front -
whose main designed feature
might be described as "late
1960s prop-up-ability".
In short, nothing glints from
Silvertown - not even the
management style of Mr Owen
Green, the BTR chief executive.
Although people describe
him as a "hard-driving man",
that tends to be the description
of those who have recently
watched him from close by.

His headquarters staff appear
to be almost as spartan as the
outward appearance of their
accommodation: just 70 of
them control 25,000 employees.
In an untypically reflective
moment the man who trained
as an accountant did allow
himself: "Growth is the goal.
Profit is the measure, security is
the result."



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P & O will answer
Trafalgar queries

Shareholders in P & O have
been promised answers at
today's annual meeting to a
series of questions about the
group's performance contained
in a letter from Mr Nigel
Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar
House, to Lord Inchcape,
chairman of P & O.

Trafalgar has bid about
£290m for P & O, which is
being, bitterly resisted. Lord
Inchcape will today devote
most of his speech to countering
Trafalgar's questions. But he
will not give a profits forecast or
asset revaluation.

A formal defence document
will be despatched after the
meeting, but profit forecasts
and asset values will be held
back in the expectation that
Trafalgar will raise its bid.

Mr Oliver Brooks, P & O's
managing director said: We will
be dealing with them tomorrow,
but I do not think he will get the
answers he wants.

Mr Brooks warns Lord
Inchcape in the letter that
advertisements in today's press
suggest P & O shareholders

Lonrho puts
pressure
on Fraser

By Our Financial Staff

Lonrho last night threatened
to create thousands of new
shareholders in House of Fraser
by breaking up its 30 per cent
stake in that company into
small parcels.

The company was reacting to
a claim made on Tuesday by
House of Fraser that the plan
to de-merge Harrods would
require a "majority vote" of
shareholders.

The Fraser board plainly felt
that the thousands of small
shareholders in the company
would back the board, making it
impossible for Lonrho to get
this majority, although Lonrho
might be able to command
more than 50 per cent of the
share.

Lonrho's threat would be
difficult but not impossible to
implement. City sources said
last night. But they felt that the
simple fact that Lonrho might
be prepared to go to this length
would be enough to dissuade
the Fraser board from pressing
for a head count.

Election hopes lift
shares to record

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Shares hit a record high
yesterday as overseas investors
scrambled to buy stocks ahead
of today's poll, in the confident
expectation that a Conservative
victory would give a further
boost to the equity market. The
FT index of 30 leading com-
panies rose 4.4 to 714.7.

But sterling and gilts had a
lack-lustre day as the markets
awaited the election results.
After opening higher the pound
eased just 20 points against a
stronger dollar to \$1.57, gaining
0.1 on its trade-weighted index
to 86.9.

Fears that United States
interest rates may be on their
way up after a run of poor
money supply figures continued
to overshadow the financial
markets, and these were only
partly balanced by the state-
ment from the Paris meeting of
Organization of Petroleum
Exporting Countries' ministers
that its pricing pact was holding
and the oil production ceiling
would be maintained at present
levels.

Hill Samuel doubles
staff profit-sharing

By Our Banking Correspondent

Hill Samuel has more than
doubled to £7.6m the sum set
aside for staff profit-sharing on
the back of another big rise in
profits.

The merchant banking and
financial services group, which
has moved ahead rapidly in the
past three years after a stagnant
period in the 1970s, raised
disclosed after tax profits by 26
per cent to £20.1m. Before
profit-sharing the increase was
40 per cent to £27.7m.

The large slice for profit-sharing
- of which £3m is payable
on annual schemes and the rest
provisions for long term
schemes - reflects the strong
incentive based pay approach
introduced by Mr Christopher
Castleman, chief executive, who
has overseen Hill Samuel's
revival.

His salary rise last year in line
with inflation was swelled by
profit sharing to a 48 per cent
rise to £126,000.

Basle accord after Ambrosiano collapse
Tighter bank controls agreed

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Tighter supervision of inter-
national banks including meas-
ures to prevent a recurrence of
some of the problems arising
from last year's collapse of
Banco Ambrosiano are revealed
in a revised version of the Basle
Concordat.

The concordat, drawn up by
central bank supervisors headed
by Mr Peter Cooke of the Bank
of England, and approved by
governors of the group of Ten
countries, and Luxembourg and
Switzerland, is published today.
It has been expanded and
redrawn to step up surveillance
and clarify supervisory re-
sponsibility over the banking
system. The publication comes
at a time when fears have again
arisen that a new wave of debt
problems in Brazil and else-
where could place further
strains on the international
banking system.

City Comment

A healthy
queue in
the City

Perhaps the most encour-
aging feature of the present
stock market boom is that
companies are taking the
opportunity to raise large
amounts of cash by rights
issues. Indeed, the normal
rights issue queue main-
tained informally by the
Bank of England is now
pretty full for three
months. London & North-
ern has cited this as one of
the main reasons for com-
pleting what might have
been a controversial deal to
buy the majority stake in
United Medical Enterprises
from the British Tech-
nology Group just two days
before the election. If it
had delayed completion it
might have had to go right
to the back of the queue
again.

In past booms, com-
panies have been too
nervous of offending influ-
ential stockbrokers' ana-
lysts who might downgrade
their company's status
because a substantial
share issue dilutes net
profit per share.

Ironically, there was a
rights issue boom in 1975,
when company liquidity
was at crisis point and
stock market prices were
just recovering from their
worst pasting in postwar
history. This broke the
mould of analysts' think-
ing, even though it was a
poor time to raise money.

Today, the situation is
quite different. Company
liquidity is in good shape
after the shake-outs of the
past four years. So groups
like GKN, Laporte and
London & Northern are
raising money for genuine
expansion, either in ad-
vance of the need for more
working capital as busi-
ness turns up or, for
aquisitions.

Today, the main prob-
lem is the capacity of the
big city institutions to
underwrite so much new
equity capital. They are
mainly stretched because
of the succession of mas-
sive takeover bids culminat-
ing in UDS and Thomas
Tilling.

Institutions were natu-
rally nervous of filling
their books too full during
the uncertainty of an
election. It was notable
that Trafalgar House
made its first bid for P & O
without a cash alternative
that would need underwrit-
ing, though there were
other reasons for this.

Today's election will
likely remove most of these
doubts. But if Mrs Thatcher
is returned, there will be
another batch of privatisa-
tion issues for the under-
writers to absorb.

Hill Samuel Group

Disclosed profit after taxation			
Year ended 31st March			
	1983	1982	
	£000	£000	
Merchant banking	16,112	12,501	
Life and investment management	3,624	2,831	
Employee benefit services	2,065	2,068	
Insurance broking	820	(628)	
Shipping services	1,812	2,491	
Underwriting agencies	303	369	
	24,736	19,632	
Central costs including interest	(4,630)	(3,641)	
Profit after taxation but before extraordinary items	20,106	15,991	
Disclosed earnings per share			
	1983	1982	
Actual	28.96p	23.33p	
Diluted	28.67p	23.24p	
Extraordinary items	458	236	
Profit after taxation and extraordinary items	20,564	16,227	

The results shown above summarise the unaudited audited accounts which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

Copies of the Report and Accounts containing the Chairman's Statement in full can be obtained from the Secretary.

Hill Samuel Group Plc
100 Wood Street
London EC2P 2AJ



Government follows US lead with £16m investment. Clive Cookson reports

Biotechnology begins to flower

1982-83		Bid		Offer		Yield	
High	Low						
Ed	Offer	Trust					

ty. will be launched very soon. The Leicester Biocentre already exists, with support worth £1.5m from five large companies (Dalgety-Spillers, Distillers, Gallaher, John Brown and Whitebread).

the less favourable aspects of the British climate for biotechnology.

this country is pathetically short of industrialists with the scientific credentials and entrepreneurial spirit to lead a venture like this. The bureaucrats are apparently still engaged in protracted negotiations over the

**Celltech's
commercial
expertise
is untested**

Celltech's biggest-selling anti-body so far is anti-interferon. This is bought by other biotechnology companies to measure and purify interferon.

DNA to catch up. One project under way at Celltech is to make rennin, the enzyme used by cheese-makers to clot milk. Rennin produced by genetically engineered bacteria should be

enough to include activities that man has been carrying on for thousands of years. Conventional brewing and wine making are not usually regarded as biotechnology but many other fermentation processes are.

Considering the fine words on offer at Williamsburg about protecting free trade - the common tariff on cars is still falling - the hypocrisy is breathtaking.

The recent multi-product deal with Japan is one example. Perhaps more significant is Brussels' construction of a steel cartel backed by minimum prices and by "voluntary" quotas with the

farming sector, after all, is a model of innovation, high productivity and prosperity. But the example of farming may not apply so well to manufacturing.

Hongkong's textile producers and Japan's motor companies are not just sitting

Taking the New Protectionism seriously by Brian Hindley and Eri Nicolaidis. Trade Policy Research Centre £3.
Graham Searjeant

Hypocrisy and the other CAP

that such restraints are politically popular. They are also good for jobs in the short-term, especially if Japanese producers can be tempted into setting up EEC plants.

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Westland doubles earnings

By John Lawless

Even the arrival of three rival Bristol helicopters yesterday could not dampen the spirits of Sir David Arlington, the Westland chairman.

The helicopters ferried the press corps to the Isle of Wight base of British Hovercraft for a visit by Mrs Thatcher as a reward for the company's success in the first half of the year. They were up to £9.02m from £4.84m at the same time last year.

The Tory leader's party, Lord Arlington could have argued, should have arrived on a British hovercraft - for his report said that the initial API-88 hovercraft started schedule service with Hovertravel on the Solent on March 8.

The hovercraft division, however, made a small operating loss of £18,000 on sales this year of £4.86m, but only because orders have been delivered, while development costs continue.

Its main business, however, made an £11m operating profit on 1983 helicopter sales of £11.1m, against £2.4m on £11.5m last year.

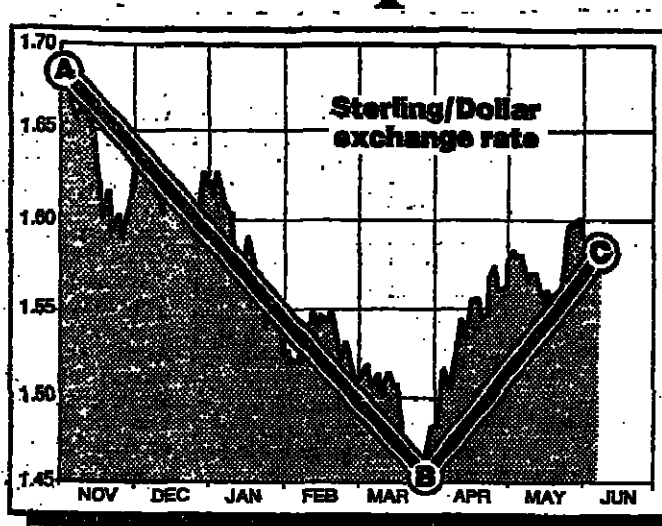
Orders for Lynx and Sea King helicopters from the Ministry of Defence have been better than promised last July, while the commitments of the British and Italian Governments to the EH101 programme "seems no longer in doubt". There will, however, probably be another six months before the red tape of both countries releases full development funds.

Lord Arlington added: "While the group's net cash position has recently been fluctuating between credit and overdraft, we foresee an increase in business, some of it with conditions of payment different from the past, which will require increased borrowing, part of it hard-core and on a long-term basis."

Thus, Westland expects to issue floating stock secured by a floating charge, and steps are being taken to convert the existing 7.75 per cent unsecured loan stock into a 7.75 per cent debenture for the same term.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Sandy McLachlan

Pound set on upward course



When Mrs Thatcher submitted to the test of the electorate four years ago, on May 3, 1979, the pound's average value on its currency basket index was at 86.3, within 1 percentage point of its value today.

For 20 months it did not look back, soaring by 20 per cent before plunging to its low in March, only to rebound in the last couple of months to present levels.

Does one remarkable coincidence herald another? There are those in the City who predict that within a few weeks of today's expected Conservative election victory sterling will be topping \$1.60 as investors, especially those overseas, pile into Government stocks.

They argue that not only will the pound survive profit-taking immediately after the victory is confirmed, but will gain new strength as more cautious investors, unwilling to commit funds before the result was known, decide to plump for gilts.

Sterling certainly has a lot going for it. Interest rates are high by European standards, oil prices have fallen and the risk of substantial weakening has receded, while Mrs Thatcher's commitment to "firm" money policies to curb inflation inspires confidence, especially abroad.

Gilts, too, are generally expected to make further gains after the election, despite fears

in some quarters that the Government plans to tighten policies to dampen excessive monetary growth and public spending. These fears can probably be discounted.

The strength of sterling means that interest rates are much more likely to come down than go up.

At the same time, the continuing competitive squeeze on companies exerted by the high pound will maintain the downward pressure on inflation. The prospect of lower interest rates combined with lower inflation in the longer run must be good for gilts.

Several brokers are predicting cuts in bank base rates of between 1 to 2 percentage

points over the summer, in the confident expectation that the pound will remain buoyant.

The future course of United States interest rates remains a cloud on the horizon for both sterling and gilts. But the general feeling is that the US authorities will not wish to see any significant rise in rates, which would dampen recovery at home.

A Conservative victory is therefore bound to make sterling stronger, and the higher the margin of seats achieved by Mrs Thatcher the better the pound is likely to perform against both the dollar and the basket of currencies which produces the weighted average.

That will therefore be good

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Stated earnings 2.11p (2.02p).
Net interim dividend, 0.962p (0.875p).

Lynton Holdings
Year to 31.3.83.
Pre-tax profit, £1.41m (£1.47m).
Stated earnings, 2.25p (2.10p).
Net dividend, 4.75p (3.75p).

Arrow Streamlines
Year to 28.2.83.
Pre-tax profit, £432,000 (£39,000).
Stated earnings, 1.23p (1.16p).
Turnover, £24.1m (£19.11m).
Net dividend, 0.75p (0.25p).

James Burroughs
Year to 28.2.83.
Pre-tax profit, £5,056 (£3,52m).
Stated earnings, 18.1p (13.7p).
Turnover, £46.1m (£38.57m).
Net dividend, 8.0p (6.7p).

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Improved profits at Pegler

By Jonathan Clare

Pegler-Hattersley
Year to 24.2.83.
Pre-tax profit £17.8m (£16.2m).
Stated earnings 33.8p (32.9p).
Turnover £148.2m (£120.2m).
Net total dividend 11.85p (10.75p).
Share price 298p, up 3p.
Yield 5.7x.

Sustained demand in the second half for products like iron and bronze valves helped Pegler-Hattersley, the Doncaster plumbing parts maker, turn in profits of £17.8m, much better than expected, against £16.2m last year.

The improvement came despite few signs of recovery for its steel valves where demand is largely tied to the chemical and oil industries. The second half was also helped by appreciation in the value of metal stocks which wiped out a first half metals loss and helped offset lower investment income as interest rates fell.

All the group's manufacturing interests did better. Building products were helped by more housing starts and more renovation and repair work by local authorities.

Margins are still under pressure, the result of import penetration in the UK and increased competition in export markets, especially from the Far East. However, there has been a modest improvement in margins compared with a year ago and the slight momentum has continued into the current year.

Investment income fell from £3.1m to £2m, though cash flow remained positive despite capital expenditure of £5.9m last year. The contribution from associate companies was up marginally at £5.2m, with improvements in New Zealand offset by a deterioration in South Africa.

Buoyant Whitlock boosts LCP

By Jeremy Warner

LCP Holdings
Year to 31.3.83.
Pre-tax profit £4.15m (£2.08m).
Stated earnings 4.4p (1.4p).
Turnover £27.46m (£23.24m).
Net final dividend 1.8p making 3.8p (same).
Share price 72p, down 5p.
Yield 7.12.

Buoyant trading of its car spare parts retailing offshoot in the US helped to boost pretax profits of LCP Holdings, the property to distributive trades group, from £2.08m to £4.15m in the year to the end of March.

Trading profits from the car care company, Whitlock, rose from £1.48m to £4.24m. Although about £1m of this increase was caused by further purchases of Whitlock shares, transforming its status from an associate to a subsidiary company, there was strong underlying growth, which, according to the management, looks like continuing into the current year.

This year, Whitlock will add another 17 superstores to its chain, taking the total number of stores in the US to 97.

Although Whitlock has clearly been successful purchase for LCP, it has left the group with high debt gearing. Even after last January's £5.8m rights issue, group net debt is still said to be around 80 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Mr David Rhead, the chairman, said there was considerable scope for reducing this in the current year by selling businesses. A new debenture of £20m to £25m would be raised against the group's property portfolio as soon as market conditions were right and after the programme of asset sales, that would be the only borrowing left in the group.

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Caparo Industries Plc

(Registered in England—No. 630473)

Issue of up to 3,834,963 of 8 1/4 per cent.
Convertible Cumulative Redeemable Preference
Shares of £1 each.

This advertisement appears in connection with the issue of up to 3,834,963 nominal of 8 1/4 per cent. Convertible Cumulative Redeemable Preference Shares of £1 each ("Convertible Shares") pursuant to an offer by Caparo Industries Plc to acquire all the share capital of Barton Group PLC. The Convertible Shares have been admitted to the Official List by the Council of The Stock Exchange.

Particulars relating to the Convertible Shares are available in the Exel Statistical Services and may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (excluding Saturdays and public holidays) up to and including 23rd June 1983 from:

Kleinwort, Benson Ltd Laurie, Milbank & Co
20 Fenchurch Street Portland House
London EC3P 3OB 72/73 Basinghall Street
London EC2V 5DP

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange in London. It does not constitute an invitation to subscribe for or purchase any securities.

ASEA AKTIEBOLAG

Issued Share Capital

Shares of SEK 50 SEK 1,968,750,000

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange in London for the new shares of Series B to be admitted to the Official List. The new shares of Series B have been issued following a Capitalisation Issue to shareholders on the basis of for every 5 old shares held (all old shares are of Series A) - 4 new shares of Series A and 1 new share of Series B. Copies of the circular to shareholders may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturday and public holidays excepted) up to and including 23rd June, 1983 from:-

Hambros Bank Limited
41 Bishopsgate,
London EC2P 2AA. 9th June, 1983.

This advertisement complies with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

GenFinance N.V.

(Incorporated with limited liability in The Netherlands and established in Amsterdam)

Placing of

£7,250,000 11.49 per cent. Loan Stock 2007

Guaranteed on a subordinated basis as to payment of principal and interest by

Société Générale de Banque S.A.

(Incorporated with limited liability in Belgium)

Issue Price £100 per cent.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange in London for the Loan Stock to be admitted to the Official List. Subject to the issue of the Loan Stock.

In accordance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange £725,000 nominal of the Loan Stock is available in the market on the date of publication of this advertisement.

Particulars of GenFinance N.V., Société Générale de Banque S.A. and the Loan Stock are available from Exel Statistical Services Limited and copies of the particulars of the Loan Stock may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 24 June 1983 from:-

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited James Capel & Co.
25 Great Winchester Street Winchester House
London EC2P 2AA 100 Old Broad Street
London EC2N 1BD

9 June 1983

Lynton Holdings PLC

Rental Income £3.1 million

Distributable Profit £929,000

Earnings per share 9.35p

Dividends per share 4.75p - up 25%

Surplus on Revaluation £5.8 million

Properties over £46 million

Net Assets per share 364p - up 23%

1983 Report and Accounts from

1/2 Mason's Arms Mews, Maddox Street, London W1R 0JY

Tel: 01-629 8463

Swire Pacific Limited

Final dividends for the year ended

31st December 1982

Scrip Dividends

At the annual general meeting held on 27th May

1983, shareholders approved the recommended

final dividends for the year ended 31st December

1982.

By the closing date of 27th May 1983 for the

lodgement of election forms in Hong Kong and

London, elections for cash dividends had been

received from the holders of 162,027,153 'A' shares

and 693,822,912 'B' shares. Accordingly, the

following new 'A' and 'B' shares have been allotted

to shareholders in respect of the final dividends for

1982 to be satisfied by the issue of scrip:

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION To the Holders of Government of New Zealand Twenty Year 5 1/2% Bonds due July 1, 1985

Twenty Year 5 1/2% Bonds due July 1, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Bonds of the above-described

issue, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Fiscal Agent, has drawn by lot for redemption on July 1, 1985 at 100% of the principal amount thereof through operation of the Sinking Fund, \$1,028,000 principal amount of said Twenty Year 5 1/2% Bonds due July 1, 1985 bearing the following distinctive numbers:

OUTSTANDING COUPON BONDS OF \$1,000 EACH BEARING NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

ALSO COUPON BONDS OF \$1,000 EACH BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

FULLY REGISTERED BONDS WITHOUT COUPONS

Number Principal Amount Number Principal Amount

2881 \$100,000 3103 \$100,000

2882 \$100,000 3104 \$100,000

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Bid talk lifts Brown

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings begin, June 8; Dealings end, June 17; Contingency Day, June 20; Settlement Day, June 21.

Help could soon be on the way for John Brown, the troubled engineering group, and once driving force of British industry.

Yesterday the shares recovered an early fall to close 2p up on the day at 26p amid growing speculation that Hawker Siddeley, with more than £200m in the bank, may be about to swoop. At last night's close John Brown was valued at £100m or 100 per cent of shareholder's funds.

If Hawker decides against a full scale bid, it might try to persuade John Brown to part with its lucrative gas turbine business, which last year made profits of £1.8m, but is capable of nearer £7m profit.

John Brown is expected to reveal losses of around £9.4m in the current year, against a profit last year of £14.2m. Sir John Mayhew Sanders, chairman at John Brown, has already told institutions that his main aim this year is to reduce gearing.

Analysts reckon on a possible capital reconstruction, but the matter may soon be taken out of Sir John's hands. Also waiting in the wings is General Electric of the United States.

The market has high hopes for Hazlewood Foods, the pickles group, where the shares rose 3p to 43p yesterday for a two day gain of 15p. Five year figures next week should see profits up from £1.4m to more than £2m. The group often tipped as a takeover candidate may soon take the decision to hit the acquisition trail itself.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed another active day with equities soaring to new heights in the belief that a Conservative landslide victory was almost a certainty in today's General Election. The FT index ended the day 4.4 up at a record 714.7.

helped by strong Continental support.

Many overseas investors feel the London stock market represents good value for money if the Conservatives are returned to power with a healthy majority, as share prices have lagged behind the rest of the world's leading markets.

Gilt spent a quiet day after their recent strong gains, partly reflecting sterling's setback on the foreign exchange. By the close, longs showed scattered falls of up to 2p, while shorts were barely changed.

The high bid banks came in for renewed support following a bullish brokers circular from Greenleaf who are looking for a recovery in profits from £1.50m to £1.72m from the "big four".

A further improvement in profits is also expected in 1984. News of the circular lifted Barclays 5p to 49p, Lloyds 5p to 56p, Midland 7p to 42p,

and National Westminster 10p to 63p.

Shares of FMC returned from suspension 6p higher at 52p after announcing it was in talks with a private company, thought to be Hillsdown Holdings.

Expect news of buoyant trading at London & Continental Advertising from Mr John Goffe, chairman, at today's annual meeting. Yesterday, the shares rose 1p to 33p on the USM, but the proposed restructuring of the shares is expected to increase the group's marketability.

ings. But both sides have failed to agree a price.

Mr Harry Goodman's Intasun holiday company has not included North America in its winter season brochure this year for the first time since 1980.

Intasun came to the market - initially the Unlisted Securities Market - making much of the

strength of its business in Miami. But a statement from Mr Sidney Perez, the chairman, that it intended to increase its winter business overall by 50 per cent this year sent the shares up 3p to 154p. Five per cent will be market growth, with 45 per cent taken from competing companies.

This move pre-empted a proposed sell-off by the National Farmers Union of its 75 per cent stake in the company to pay off debts approaching £4m. The sale of 10 million shares has now been postponed for a month.

Shares of Jimmy Gulliver's Argill Foods were a strong market climber 3p to 138p ahead of figures out next week. The market is looking for profits of around £23m.

Making its debut on the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of Cifer, the computer terminal manufacturer, made a bright start. The shares, offered by way of tender at 115p, closed 16p higher, at 131p. But another member of the USA, Mickaugh & Harvey, the building contractor, held steady at 175p. A big buyer of the shares at 160p was reported in the market earlier this week.

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

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Somerset stung by Stovold's inspired stand

Young bloods with a chance

By Peter Marson

Bristol: Somerset, with seven first innings wickets in hand, are 332 runs behind Gloucestershire. Stovold's inspirational innings of 84, made in 78 minutes, lay at the centre of an eminently successful day for Gloucestershire's batsmen yesterday, and when they had had their fill, Stephen and Shepherd came to make Somerset's discomfort complete.

The World Cup and an injury to Rose, the captain, combined to deprive Somerset of their five international cricketers, and if that meant the traditional rivalry between the two would be a fraction less spicy, it seemed also that Gloucestershire would have to play moderately well to turn a substantial imbalance to advantage.

Gloucestershire won the toss and chose to bat. With some orators along other than enjoying a bonanza in baldheaded just now, it was reassuring and refreshing to mark a compelling lecture delivered by Andy Stovold.

For five innings in the county championship, sponsored by Shell, in which he has hit two hundreds, Stovold has now amassed 514 runs for an average of 108.40.

His success has been confidence in a sound, well-tried policy wherein the bat meets the ball in a solid, meaningful way before depositing it in the other regions beyond the boundary. Even Somerset must have admired Stovold's lucid, stylish, although when the time approached for him to receive the accolade of a hundred, Roebuck, Somerset's active captain, and the rest must have felt greater pleasure seeing him fall. A stirring start had ended.

Elsewhere it was mourning for all, as 15 resounding strokes to the

boundary had taken Stovold to 84 out of 112 in 20 overs, and the season's fastest hundred had been in sight. Alas, Gloucestershire's champion fell here, missing his intended hook and offering Roebuck, running back from ship, a straight forward chance.

By comparison, the pace hereafter seemed funeral, this was an illusion. Gloucestershire's reckoned consolidation preceded annihilation. Broad became the anchor in partnership with Batsbridge (64) and Higgin (58) and when he bowed out, before the persistent Davis for 84, Gloucestershire at 267 for four from 67 overs had three points locked away with two more virtually assured.

Gloucestershire First Innings
A W Stovold c Roebuck b Popplewell 84
B C Broad b Davis 64
C Batsbridge c Palmer b Llywelyn 58
D J Higgin c Stovold b Wilson 58
E P W Romaine b Davis 23
F A Shepherd 10 b Davis 4
G A Gwynne b Palmer 4
H P D Shepherd b Drudge 21
I D Gwynne b Llywelyn 19
Extras (6 b, 4 w, 5 n) 19

Total (all bats down, 91.4 overs) 267
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-112, 2-178, 3-278, 4-267, 5-267, 6-267, 7-267, 8-267, 9-267, 10-267, 11-267, 12-267, 13-267, 14-267, 15-267, 16-267, 17-267, 18-267, 19-267, 20-267, 21-267, 22-267, 23-267, 24-267, 25-267, 26-267, 27-267, 28-267, 29-267, 30-267, 31-267, 32-267, 33-267, 34-267, 35-267, 36-267, 37-267, 38-267, 39-267, 40-267, 41-267, 42-267, 43-267, 44-267, 45-267, 46-267, 47-267, 48-267, 49-267, 50-267, 51-267, 52-267, 53-267, 54-267, 55-267, 56-267, 57-267, 58-267, 59-267, 60-267, 61-267, 62-267, 63-267, 64-267, 65-267, 66-267, 67-267, 68-267, 69-267, 70-267, 71-267, 72-267, 73-267, 74-267, 75-267, 76-267, 77-267, 78-267, 79-267, 80-267, 81-267, 82-267, 83-267, 84-267, 85-267, 86-267, 87-267, 88-267, 89-267, 90-267, 91-267, 92-267, 93-267, 94-267, 95-267, 96-267, 97-267, 98-267, 99-267, 100-267, 101-267, 102-267, 103-267, 104-267, 105-267, 106-267, 107-267, 108-267, 109-267, 110-267, 111-267, 112-267, 113-267, 114-267, 115-267, 116-267, 117-267, 118-267, 119-267, 120-267, 121-267, 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M. Fazzolari (7-1)

OTE Wire £2.90, Paces £1.10, £2.30, £3.30, £10.00
 2:12 & 5th at Epsom, St. 2d. Here's (7-1) & 4th 13 ms.

(1-16) MEMORIALS HAVE STAGES (Ch. 1 ms 13 100yds)

AVE MEMORY to be Crow - Out Of The Start. (E. Seltzer) 3-4 — S. Taylor (6-4) Fast
 1st runner (L. Young) 11
 P. Robinson (2-2)

OTE Wire £2.90, Paces £1.10, £2.30, £3.30, £10.00
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Always dividends to suits of 18p
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General Appointments

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£24,245

There are currently two Senior Medical Officer vacancies in the Division concerned with the organisation, planning and management of the National Health Service.

One post is for a doctor who has an interest in developing performance indicators and the analysis and interpretation of such information, with particular emphasis on the quality of care. There will also be responsibility for developing programmes for the management training of clinicians and overseeing research on clinical budgeting.

The second post will involve working together with administrative and other professional colleagues, on reviewing and monitoring regional strategic plans, consideration of resource allocation, submissions for capital developments and closure of hospitals. The work will require

close liaison with NHS management in the Regions and Districts concerned.

Candidates must be medical practitioners fully registered in the UK and should preferably have: for the first post, experience in NHS management; for the second post, extensive NHS experience and, in particular, management experience.

For further information about these appointments, telephone Dr. Alison Smith on 01-407 5322 ext. 6880.

Salary for these posts is £24,245 which includes £1250 Inner London Weighting.

For an application form (to be returned by 1 July 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alcon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68531 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: S/6003/3.

Department of Health and Social Security

Banking & Accountancy Appointments

SWISS LIFE

Pensions Consultant

£12,000+

Swiss Life, which is Europe's largest mutual life office, and long established in the planning and insurance of company benefit schemes on a multinational basis, has a vacancy for an experienced Consultant in its U.K. Office.

The position would offer excellent opportunities to a suitably experienced and qualified person, who would be expected to work on own initiative as part of a marketing team, based in London, which is concerned with:

- The presentation of Swiss Life's employee benefit services to prospective clients and intermediaries.
- Advice to new clients regarding the design and installation of new employee benefit plans.

The successful applicant is therefore likely to have some years experience in a similar capacity within a life office or consultancy and evidence of technical competence by way of a suitable professional qualification. An initial salary of not less than £12,000 is envisaged, depending upon experience and qualifications, together with an assisted mortgage and other benefits. Relocation expenses will be considered. Applicants should send brief career particulars, in confidence, to:

Mr. S. J. Rickard, F.P.M.I.
Swiss Life Insurance and Pension Company,
9-12 Chesapeake, London EC2V 6AL.
Tel. 01-236 3841.

APPOINTMENTS

A major economic organisation in the UK requires researcher in economics with a university degree and excellent knowledge of Arabic and English languages, to be responsible for the collection, analysis and editing of economic material and specialised directories in the field of trade and economy. Previous experience will be an advantage. Salary is negotiable on the basis of competence and experience. For further information please write to Box 02532 The Times, not later than two weeks from the date of this advertisement.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTORS

Graduates required to work with people in international company. Successful applicants will be trained as instructors of English as a foreign language. Please call 01-537 1587

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If so, we may see you. We are recruiting for a professional career with a national financial brokerage based in W1. Must be well grounded and self motivated. Age 25+. Tel. Midland Hall 01-438 8431

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

GRADUATE (S) or POST GRADUATE (S)
Required by small, vibrant, rapidly expanding Japanese Business Services company in Tokyo and with branch offices in London and Manila. Administrative position (S) available primarily in Tokyo office. Willingness and ability to travel widely, sociable personality, broad-minded attitudes and communication essential. Japanese language ability unnecessary. No telephone enquiries, send CV to: **MARTIN LUKK, SUWABO AGENCY LTD, 10 Charles II St, London SW1**

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FRENCH/SPANISH/ITALIAN. Typing. Travel. City. £6,500. City. Travel. Cover. Material. 10.15-6.00. 01-835 5452 (24 hrs).

FINANCE DIRECTOR Building Materials Cambridge, c. £20K

An autonomous company in the U.K. and part of an International Group is seeking a Finance Director, 35 years +. This profitable market leader is capable of development by acquisition and diversification. The successful candidate will be a qualified Accountant who will direct and motivate efficient Finance and D.P. departments in addition to providing a corporate finance role to achieve the ambitious aims for the progressive development of the business.

Usual large company benefits plus related bonus scheme, BUPA, etc. Applications with full CV in confidence to Mr Eric Marham, Managing Director

Ermit Building Products Ltd
Whaddon Road, Meltham, Nr. Royston, Herts

Accountant

Established and expanding Company based in South London and trading in advertising services is seeking a qualified Accountant. The successful candidate will have the ability to manage the double entry book-keeping system (soon to be computerised) and to play and control the budgeting process. Additional responsibilities include preparing monthly financial reports, cash flow forecasts and producing the Company's yearly financial accounts. Applicants should have a sound educational background with broad based experience in accounting, April 30-35 years they should have held a similar position in past employment, be prepared to give total commitment, have drive and initiative and be able to provide financial advice at senior level. Salary and benefits totally commensurate with this important position will be paid depending upon qualifications and experience. Visits applications and full CVs should be made to: Box 01728 The Times

NIPPON KANGYO KAKUMARU (EUROPE) LTD.

This Japanese securities company seeks one Eurobond Trader to join its small Eurobond team. Applications are invited from experienced traders aged between 25 to 35 years. Salary will be negotiable, but at an appropriate level according to age, experience and relevant qualifications. Applications should be made in writing only please to: Mr K. Nakada, Nippon Kangyo Kakumaru (Europe) Ltd., 5th Floor, Gardens House, 18 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7AT.

ACCOUNTANT/ADMINISTRATOR
Worcestershire, leading firm. Salary £10,000-12,000. 01-464 7632.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES
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General Appointments

WATER COMPANIES' ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY

The Association which was established in 1885 to represent the interests of Statutory Water Companies, is seeking a Director and Secretary to succeed the existing holder of this appointment who will retire at the end of the year. The Association will have increasing responsibilities in its co-ordinating role for the Water Act 1983 and the implementation of the Water Act 1983 and the Director and the Secretary will be responsible to the Council of the Association and will, in practice, report to the Chairman. The person to be appointed should have a knowledge of statutory bodies and Government Departments and be used to working with Committees. Although not essential, it is desirable that the person should be a qualified solicitor. Salary £25,000 p.a. plus pension rights and provision for a car. Applications should be submitted in writing to: Director and Secretary, Water Companies' Association, 14 Great College Street, London, SW1P 3RX, on or before 24th June, 1983.

HORIZONS

The Times Guide to careers training

Temps turn into a permanent feature

It is no coincidence that, of all forms of employment, temporary work has risen out of the recession most successfully, and that while the availability of full-time work has dropped dramatically in the past two decades, the demand for temporary labour has increased.

Primarily this is because employers are currently changing the way in which they assess temporary workers, and the uses to which they put them. Traditionally, temporary staff were seen as a costly luxury, to be used only when the absence of permanent staff through holidays, sickness or unexpected resignation made it essential to have someone to fill in until the full-timer returned or was replaced. "Temps" were regarded as unreliable and more costly than permanent staff, and were often looked down on and ignored by both the managers who supervised them and the employees they worked with.

While these views die hard, and will still be frequently encountered by people who temp for any length of time, a number of important developments have begun to place temporary workers in a different, and far more favourable light. First, a combination of the recession and changing social trends has led to a growing number of mature, well-qualified and experienced people to take on temporary work, either as an alternative to full-time work, or as a means of combining some form of employment with their domestic commitments. The favourable impression they are creating on employers' premises is prompting the revelation that, far from being a liability, the temporary workers' ability to adapt at short notice to the establishment's needs and culture gives them assets worth retaining or developing.

This discovery, together with soaring recruitment costs, is also prompting employers to use temporary work as a more effective way of selecting permanent staff. It is a trend which has been further generated by the fact that something like 34 per cent of people engaged in temporary work are using it as a means of earning a living while looking for full-time employment, a fact confirmed by the Alfred Marks Bureau in a survey conducted last year among their own temporary workforce. Interestingly, the same survey revealed that, while 15 per cent of their client establishments were using temporary work as a selection tool, only 6 per cent of their temporaries thought they were being "tried out" for a permanent position. It seems logical to assume, therefore, that employers are doing this far more often than temporary staff realise.

Secondly, the growth in the "hidden costs and legal obligations attached to the employment of permanent staff has led to many

Employers find temporary workers a useful pool from which to select full-time staff, writes Michel Syrett

employers maintaining the minimum numbers of full-timers necessary to cope with normal workloads and using increased numbers of temporary workers to cover for expected as well as unexpected peaks of work and absenteeism. Under this form of peak workload system (a concept pioneered by Alfred Marks), employers would consequently never have to pay unnecessary costs for overstaffing, yet are never left short-handed during busy periods of their trading year.

A more imaginative use of temporary work has been accompanied by its extension into areas far removed from the secretarial and clerical positions with which it is usually associated. The late 1960s and early 1970s saw a growth in the number of agencies offering semi-skilled and manual industrial work, and by 1980 nursing agencies accounted for more than 50 per cent of the total temporary staffing costs of the NHS.

The market for temporary accountancy staff is now well-established and has adapted to the recession. Placements through specialist agencies or through direct response advertising has increased steadily and there has been a marked bias towards longer term bookings. And although many accountants are now in a position to plan staff levels more confidently, they frequently still prefer long-term temporaries to permanently recruited employees.

There are now indications that managers who volunteer to work on a

temporary basis could be opening up a new area of job opportunity. Temporary management is seen as an interim step towards full employment, but some recruitment specialists believe that the idea after the recession is ended, it may provide a new bridge for mid-career change.

All of this seems to indicate that the prospects for temporary workers at all levels will continue to grow in the coming decade. However, traditional views still remain and many temporary secretaries still return to their agencies with horror stories of employers who fail to provide a civil welcome, or who do not give a breakdown of the role of the department they will be working in or the manager to whom they will be responsible, who fail to outline the way in which they should work and provide satisfactory equipment or working conditions, and who do not make sure someone is available to supervise them, answer any questions or clarify work instructions.

Temporary staff therefore have to develop a resourcefulness, flexibility and adaptability far greater than their permanent counterparts in order to gain acceptance in the establishments to which they are contracted. Paradoxically, this often proves one of their best selling points. As one temporary controller put it: "It is precisely because many employers are conditioned into thinking that temporary workers are inferior and unreliable that they are often so surprised when the worker they request from us proves as good as and even better than the member of staff she is replacing. It is this factor which leads to so many temporary workers being subsequently offered a permanent job."

MARKET-PLACE

In a monthly column, Philip Schofield looks at job vacancies

The number of vacancies notified to Jobcentres fell slightly between April and May on a seasonally adjusted basis. Even so, the monthly average for the three months ending May was 169,000 - more than 4 per cent up on last year. As only a third of vacancies are notified to Jobcentres, the total number was probably just over 500,000.

Although the increase in overall demand was relatively modest, there

was a sharp increase in the number of management, professional and technical vacancies. In May, PER's weekly jobs newspaper *Executive Post* carried a record 2,416 vacancies - an increase on last year of more than 36 per cent. This growth was reflected in all job categories.

Management Selection Limited monitors recruitment advertising in a selection of national media on a quarterly basis. The latest *MSL Index*, published last week, shows that management and professional vacancies in the first quarter of the year were 41 per cent up on the last quarter of 1982. The largest increases were recorded for research, development and design (up to 49 per cent) and for accountants (up 46 per cent).

As employers tend to reduce their recruitment activity prior to a general election, these figures may understate the growing buoyancy of the recruitment market.

Sales and Marketing Appointments

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This fast-growing company is a major supplier of microwave instrumentation. It is indisputably the worldwide market leader in automatic analysis systems related to antenna design and manufacture.

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Candidates, ideally aged 30-40, should have a background in microwave technology. A knowledge of antenna measurement techniques would be an advantage. They should also have had marketing experience in the general microwave field.

Candidates will be required to travel extensively in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and India and to negotiate at senior level in Governmental and public sector business. Knowledge of at least one other European language besides English is desirable.

An attractive remuneration package will be offered, commensurate with the importance of this position. The successful candidate will report to the Instrumentation Group Marketing Director in the USA, and will be based at the European Headquarters located in pleasant surroundings west of London.

Call or write with C.V. to:

KEN SHARPE
Scientific Atlanta Ltd.,
Horton Manor, Stanwell Road,
Horton, Slough, SL3 9PA
Tel: Colnbrook (02812) 3211

MARKETING/SALES MANAGER

A well established architectural and engineering consultancy has recently started a multi-million dollar property development in Spain and USA. A new position has been created for a marketing/sales manager to establish a new department for promotion and sales of property.

The applicant must:

- Be of hardworking disposition.
- Of good presentation.
- Must have a proven background of property sales.
- Be prepared to travel away from home.
- Preferably be between the ages of 35 and 45.

Qualifications will be considered advantageous but not essential. Salary will be £25,000 sterling P.A. plus a commission based upon sales performance. There is also a company pension scheme. Interviews will be carried out in London. Please apply in handwriting, enclosing C.V., plus photo to: Box 0216 H The Times

SALES MANAGEMENT U.K. AND INTERNATIONAL

A challenging opportunity has arisen for an ambitious young man or woman to join a small but highly progressive company which supplies excipients to the pharmaceutical, food and related industries. This key post is in the commercial department and will involve the management and development of business in the U.K. and specific international territories. Applicants should be science-based graduates aged 27/35 with a successful record in a sales and marketing environment, and willing to travel extensively throughout the U.K. and in overseas markets. Whilst not essential, fluency in at least one other European language would be an advantage.

An excellent salary is negotiable and there is a performance related bonus and company car. A non-contributory pension, PPP membership and other attractive fringe benefits are also provided. The post is based at the company's headquarters in the home counties and generous assistance will be given with relocation expenses.

Applicants should write in strictest confidence, enclosing a c.v. and a recent photograph to:

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If you feel you match the above, please telephone The Maureen Peachey, Personnel Manager on 01-438 9830 or write her at Vogue House, Hanover Square, London W1.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

DIRECTOR FOR THE BRITISH RACING SCHOOL

The Trustees of the British Racing School are seeking a Director for the new British Racing School. The Director will have overall responsibility for the management of the school, and liaison with the racing industry. The successful candidate will be a person of proven ability and experience in the management of a large organisation, and will be responsible for the development of the school's business and financial affairs. Applications should be sent to: Lord Mervyn Davies, Chairman of the Trustees, 40 Bernard Street, London WC1

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Sales person required for Etienne Aigner shop at Liberty of Regent Street. Young person with some experience preferred but not essential. We are leaders in top and leather bags/shoes & accessories. The position carries a generous basic salary & commission on all sales. In the first instance please apply in writing to The Liberty Shop Manager, c/o Etienne Aigner Shop, 6/7 New Bond St, London W1

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General Appointments

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Some jobs offer good prospects.

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We can offer you all you've ever wanted from a career in the world of finance. But only if you can offer us the right kind of potential to work with. We're looking for people who are motivated and ambitious. People who bring a mature, intelligent outlook to bear on life. And want a great deal more out of life than they're already getting at the moment. Does this sound like you? If it does, and you're aged between 25 and 55, we'd like you to join our team of Associates, achieving our aims in the management of their money. We'll train you well, and give you all the support you need to succeed. Continuously.

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Editor

Required by INLAND REVENUE STAFF FEDERATION for

"Assessment"

a monthly tabloid and

"Taxes"

a quarterly magazine

plus some related responsibilities

The IRSF has around 60,000 members in the Inland Revenue and is affiliated to the T.U.C. Applicants should therefore be able to demonstrate a sympathy for trade unionists as well as capacity for the responsibilities of Editor, and should be free to take up the post not later than the end of August. Starting salary on the scale £11,329 - £17,806 (inclusive of London Weighting). Non-contributory superannuation scheme. Job description available. Applications (of which 7 typed copies should be supplied please) not later than 25 June 1983.

Tony Christopher

General Secretary

IRSF

Douglas Houghton House

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In the last of a series of interviews with the four party leaders, Julian Haviland, Political Editor, talks to Roy Jenkins about the future of British politics

Roy Jenkins: The effort has been worthwhile

Has the Alliance not based some inflated claims upon its standing in the polls?

No, because our claims are not based on the polls. They are to some extent confirmed by the polls, and there has been a movement of the polls which has been almost uniformly in our favour in the past week or so. But our claims are essentially based on what we have found on the ground.

I have no doubt at all that after a rather sluggish start our campaign began to pick up about two weeks ago and has gained momentum with every day since then. Everybody round the country confirms this, that people are keen to see us. We have been getting much bigger crowds, much greater enthusiasm. There is a surge to the Alliance. Quite how big it is we will see when the votes are counted.

But on Sunday Mr Steel stated as a fact that the Alliance had overtaken the Labour Party. That sounded rather sharp - less than honest.

I think it is true. It is my belief that we are now quite firmly the only realistic alternative to Mrs Thatcher. The Labour Party campaign really has been coming apart. I was in East London on Monday, the only bastion of the Labour Party in the south of England, and I believe they are disintegrating there.

If Labour is crushed today, do you expect the SDP to pick up ex-Labour recruits?

We don't know how many Labour MPs there will be. I don't predict. But I think there would be many Labour supporters who would rethink their position.

But if Labour emerges as the stronger challenger to the Conservatives, will that not be the beginning of the end for the SDP?

No, I think that, whatever happens, we have put down, to an extent that perhaps surprises me after only two years, sufficiently deep roots in the ground so that I am totally convinced that the SDP

will continue as a virile political force.

If after an upheaval the Labour Party becomes again what it was when you were a member as a young man, won't the SDP have served its purpose? And would you not be content for it to fade away?

I see no chance of this happening. I think if it is heavily defeated, and I believe it will be, then you will have a new bloodbath in the Labour Party. I think that the new parliamentary party will be more left-wing than the previous one which declined to elect Mr Healey and elected Mr Foot; that the grip of the left wing on the constituency parties is sufficiently strong; that there is no prospect of change.

Labour faces a new bloodbath?

The so-called moderate people in the Labour Party have been able to survive only by swallowing a lot of their principles and by backing a manifesto in which they don't believe. This has led them to have a very unhappy campaign. Mr Healey is the most notable example of that.

Have you moved on to a point where you would no longer be at home in the Labour Party of your youth?

My views have developed over a period and are not exactly what they were in the fifties. I think there would be something wrong with one's intellectual equipment if one's views remained absolutely static, particularly in the midst of changing circumstances, but I would claim that my views have developed in a fairly straight line.

You could beat Labour well into third place and still have only 40 Alliance MPs. If so, you will have achieved nothing, will you?

Do not underestimate our capacity for winning seats. We are



Photograph: Bill Warriner

going very hard for turning votes into seats, and I think we are going to have a lot of success. Of course, if it does happen, if we poll many more votes than Labour and win far fewer seats, it will be a scandal for democracy. This would be a very strong moral position.

What issues have mattered most? What has mattered most is, can you get the economy going again without running into inflation? The Conservatives clearly offer no hope of a significant pick-up in the economy. The Labour Party offers nothing that would not lead straight into massive inflation, with no remedies for dealing with it.

I think the nuclear issue has been quite important, although certainly unilateralism has not been the benefit to the Labour Party that it thought it would be. Indeed, defence policy generally may, more than anything else, have been the issue on which the Labour Party fell apart in the early stages of the campaign.

Our policy has been firmly anti-unilateralism and firmly in favour of seeking security through the Western Alliance, but equally opposed to the foolishness and danger of building up vast additional nuclear arsenals. This policy, which I would describe as safety through sanity, has been effective.

Thirdly, I would say the fear that a large Conservative majority would mean massive attacks on the public services, notably the health service, but the railways, too, and the education service, has been a significant issue and one on which we have pressed very strongly.

The fourth issue has been a feeling that Labour or Conservatives polarised the country, divided still further between class and class, north and south, employed and unemployed, inner cities and suburbs, and this has been a powerful factor working in our favour.

What has been the biggest drag on your campaign? A ganging up of the other parties? Well, it is certainly the case that the other parties, in a curious way, although ideologically further apart than they have been for some time, are drawn together by a desire not to see us challenge their duopoly of power.

I think one of the most remarkable statements of the campaign has been Mrs Thatcher's cry: 'The Labour Party will never die.' She does not want it to die, she wants to have it as an adversary because she knows it is an adversary she can beat. She is much more frightened of us because she by no means knows she can beat us.

6Mrs Thatcher is much more frightened of us?

Did you see yourself, when you left Parliament for the European Commission, heading your own party and making at least a fight of it in a general election? When I left the Commons I thought the probability was that I was leaving it for the last time, but I never excluded the possibility that I might come back in some form. I was clear that I did not

want to come back and play a part again in the traditional pattern of British politics. It was only if some sort of sea-change set in that I envisaged the possibility of coming back. But I had a clear view all the time that I was never going to close that door by becoming a member of the other House, for instance.

If these last few weeks prove to have been the climax of the SDP's life, and if it does not succeed today but collapses, will the whole effort have been worthwhile? This is based on a highly hypothetical premise.

You do not have to accept my hypothesis.

I believe without question that the effort has been worthwhile and that we have established ourselves. I believe we are here to stay. I believe firmly that over the next decade, maybe much sooner, maybe over the next 24 hours, we will see a completely different pattern of British politics in which the SDP, working with the Liberals, is a major force, and will be able to form a government, and that we will see a highly beneficial change in our electoral system and a number of other desirable constitutional changes. I have no doubt the effort has been worthwhile.

And if you lose your seat tomorrow, do you know what you will do?

No, I will think about it when I have recovered from the exhaustion of the campaign, which has not been excessive although substantial. I have had a very energetic campaign. I am rather surprised I have stood up to it quite so well.

Frank Johnson's campaign trail

Tory heartland pays homage to heroine

And so to the last day. Labour having been dealt with to her own satisfaction, the Prime Minister devoted her energies to constituencies where the issue lay between the Conservatives and the Alliance. That meant a descent on the cream-tea-and-scone belt of the Outer Home Counties. It was a welcome journey for those of us who take the anti-Orwell view that this part of England is no less "real" or "warm" for not being in the industrial north.

Out along the line of the A3 flew the Prime Minister, by helicopter with a journalist escort as the proud names passed below: Esher, Chertsey, Bagshot, stretching away to Guildford itself, the Queen of the South, a place whose impenetrable one-way system is fully worthy of a town whose previous and probably next MP is the Secretary for Transport. Happily we were in the air yesterday.

Prosperity burgeoned below us, antique dealers, chartered accountants, estate agents: the simple life, who are the backbone of England. On went the names: Leatherhead, Godalming, Basingstoke. We were in a traditionally patriotic region. Selfishly, it yields up the finest of its daughters for service in the typing at Conservative Central Office.

Whole careers in the Labour Party have been founded on the simple desire to impoverish regions such as this. No wonder one instinctively felt a sense of solidarity with the people living below.

The Prime Minister turned west towards Wiltshire. The grazing cows were plumper. So were the grazing chartered accountants.

One of them, called Mr Key, was the Conservative candidate in Salisbury, the town near which we landed. Here the Liberals were said to be well-organized.

The Conservatives, it was emphasized, had to be on their guard against complacency. But it all seemed Tory enough to me. Matrons in spotless floral dresses, with stiff white collars, cooed and shed at the Prime Minister's approach and told each other that she was lovely.

Exquisite children presented bouquets. The sun shone. The candidate, Mr Key, turned out to be a

typically sturdy, jovial specimen of Home Counties stock. He even had a wife named Fiona. All seemed under control.

From the helicopter port at Old Sarum, yes, the small hill which was once an entire parliamentary constituency before the Tories were forced by extremists to accept changed methods of reelection, we were bussed to Salisbury's fine market square.

A large crowd had gathered. But there was quite a large disloyal element, who booed and shrieked defiance. "You stand there shouting," Mrs Thatcher shouted back. "How pathetic you are, haven't got an argument left."

I retreated out of earshot to the edge of the throng. After four weeks on the trail, diverting though it has all been, there comes a time when the old brain can take no more. The din must have been particularly disturbing for those of one's cohorts who had apparently celebrated the end of the Thatcher tour with an epic number of *digestives* late the previous night.

Mrs Thatcher brought her campaign to a climax by landing on the Isle of Wight, the British possession which she regards as having been illegally occupied by the Liberals since 1974. The launching of the attack from Salisbury was a complex operation involving helicopters, Wallace Arnold coaches, and a hovercraft. It was surprising there were so few deaths.

The journalists swarmed ashore from the helicopters in advance of the Prime Minister, though, from the sound of the previous night's debaucheries, their regiment was too Paralytic rather than 2 Para.

Mrs Thatcher arrived in the shape of the prow of the hovercraft. At Cowes she met some resistance from forces loyal to the Liberal sitting candidate, Mr Stephen Ross. As she approached the site of her open air meeting, jeers and boos greeted her as well as applause. But she overwhelmed them with her superior firepower, and left for London with the Tories confident that the Alliance everywhere will be seen off by the Isle of Wight Factor.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Candidates at risk

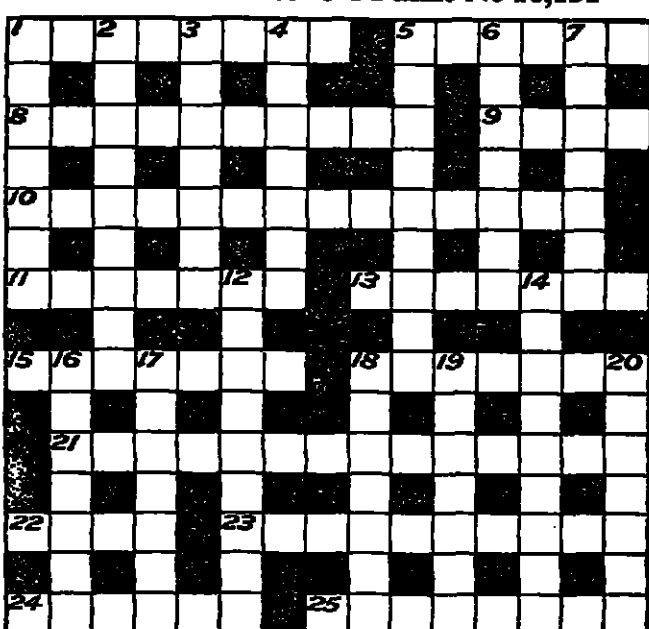
If the latest opinion polls are correct, the following dozen well known candidates could fail to be re-elected to Parliament. The expected time of each result is given in brackets.

Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Bristol E; Lab (1.30-2am); Mr James Callaghan, Cardiff S and Penarth; Lab (1.30-2am); Mr Roy Jenkins, Glasgow, Hillhead; Alliance (12.30-1am); Mrs Shirley Williams, Crosby; Alliance (1-1.30am); Mr William Rodgers, Stockton N; Alliance (1.30-2am); Dr David Owen, Plymouth, Devonport; Alliance (1.30-2am); Mrs Gwyneth Dawood, Crewe and Nantwich; Lab (2.30-3am); Mr Richard Wainwright, Colne Valley; Alliance (1.30-2am); Mr Albert Booth, Barrow and Furness; Lab (3.30-4am); Mr Jack Straw, Blackburn; Lab (12.30-1am); Dr Shirley Summerskill, Halifax; Lab (12.30-1am); Mrs Reese Short, Wolverhampton NE; Lab (midnight to 12.30am).

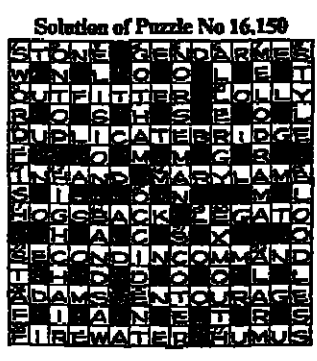
Royal engagements, page 18

The pound, page 21

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,151



- ACROSS
- Uncomfortably I dissent as demanded (8).
 - Rejected writing about church is producing division (6).
 - Indian thus translating his speech perhaps (10).
 - Before victory day gunners show wild enthusiasm (4).
 - Coward's dramatic fight at the bar? (5, 9).
 - Divide and soundly test dissenting body (7).
 - Father has small number to work at making full armour (7).
 - Appearing to understand a Chinese dynasty (7).
 - Abandons dues (7).
 - Trail blazer beheaded in choosing political activity (14).
 - Musical initially from Jurland and Zunder Zee (4).
 - Bill to evict us, perhaps, without a case? (10).
 - Write refusal in French to the ensign (6).
 - Impetuous horse-doctor accommodates toughs (8).
- DOWN
- Occupancy as a monastery appearing thus? (7).
 - Reacting to stimuli like Shelley's plant (9).
 - Evasive action before certain dealings (7).
 - Former metal weight, no longer existing (7).
 - Brew ale - it must excite (9).
 - Hornblower's call to a relation (7).
 - A few always found in an Indian tree (7).
 - After swindles, aim to imprison (9).
 - Capital, I'd say, for one such as Oedipus (9).
 - Raise to a higher position in the Empire State Building? (7).
 - One whose calling is associated with prayer (7).
 - One that may come out at night, or meet another for a bite (7).
 - Slow leak? Consult the attendant (7).
 - FBI investigators placed outside this division (7).



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 14

When the votes come in

The following are estimates of the expected times for the declaration of general election results tonight and tomorrow.

11.01-11.30pm

Great Grimsby
Surrey E
Torkey

Tunbridge Wells
Wolverhampton S

11.31-midnight
Barnsley cent
Barnsley E

Barnsley W and Penistone
Bedfordshire SW

Cheltenham
Chester, City of
Epping Forest

Faversham
Guildford
Kirkcaldy

Leigh
Pondle
Tyne Bridge

Warwick and Leamington
Wigan
Wolverhampton SW

Wrexham
12.01-12.30am
Ashted

Bedfordshire N
Bexhill & Battle

Burnley
Chislehurst
Chorley

Cynon Valley
Dover
Epsom & Ewell

Gadling
Harwich
Hazel Grove

Hertsmere
Hyndburn
Ipswich

Keighley
Kingwood
Lancashire W

Liverpool, Broadgreen
L'pool, Garsdon
L'pool, Mossley Hill

L'pool, Riverside
L'pool, Walton
L'pool, W Derby

Makerfield
Middlebrough
Mole Valley

Newark
Newcastle upon Tyne C
Newcastle upon Tyne E

Northampton
Norton
Old Bexley & Sidcup

Pontypridd
Ponze
Rotherham

St Albans
Salisbury
Scarborough

Shefford
Stockport
Sussex, Mid

Warrington N
Warrs
Weston-a-Mare

Wolverhampton NE
Worthing
Wymondley

Yeovil
12.31-1 am
Aberdeen

Aldrich and Sale
Amber Valley
Ashted-Lyne

Aylesbury
Ayr
Basingstoke

Barnes
Barnsley E
Barnsley W

12.31-1.30 am

Birmingham, Edgbaston
Bham, Edgbaston
Bham, Half On

Bham, Hodge Hill
Bham, Ladywood
Bham, Northfield

Bham, Perry Bar
Bham, Selly Oak
Bham, Small Heath

Bham, Sparkbrook
Bham, Yardley
Blackburn

Blackpool N
Bipol
Bolsover

Bohdon NE
Bolton SE
Bolton W

Bolton W
Bosworth
Bournemouth W

Bradford N
Bradford S
Bradford W

Bradford W
Brentwood & Ongar
Bromsgrove

Cambridgeshire SE
Cambs SW
Carlisle

Carlisle
Carlisle and Warrington
Castle Point

Chertsey & Walton
Chingford
Chislehurst

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1.31-2.30 am

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